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Reference Code: 2021/97/16

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Mr. Gillin
S.H. 8.5.95

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MEETING BETWEEN TAOISEACH
AND
GERRY ADAMS, SINN FEIN
FRIDAY 5TH MAY 1995

1. The Taoiseach expressed his appreciation for the fact that T. Hartley had attended the Islandbridge Ceremony. Gerry Adams said this had not been widely understood in republican circles. The Taoiseach said that it was of particular importance in terms of political capital in the U.K. and was appreciated by the Prime Minister personally.
2. The Taoiseach addressed the issue of street demonstrations and protesting. He said that organisers needed to focus on the dangers that could emerge and that it would be unwise to over estimate the ability of organisers to control such events. Gerry Adams took on board the points made.
3. The Taoiseach raised the issue of the bodies of IRA victims that had not been found. Gerry Adams mentioned that he had seen the families in question and again took on board the points made.
4. The Taoiseach raised the issue of how Sinn Fein would address decommissioning in the talks with Minister Ancram. Gerry Adams said

they were satisfied to address the issue in principle. The Taoiseach said it was important to move beyond the principles to modalities. Gerry Adams replied that Sinn Fein would listen to what the British had to say on modalities and constructively engage with the British on the issues arising. The Taoiseach raised in this context contacts between Sinn Fein and Canadian sources. Gerry Adams claimed he did not know of these contacts. The Taoiseach concluded on decommission by saying that it was important for Sinn Fein to go as far as possible, even on a contingent basis.

5. The Taoiseach urged Sinn Fein not to over emphasise the distinction between exploratory and "full" talks. In political terms it would be important not to emphasise that distinction and imperceptibly move to the same level for all parties. If Sinn Fein did emphasise the distinction then neither side would have the room to manoeuvre to advance to the same level at the appropriate time.
6. The Taoiseach mentioned that he believed the British would focus in strongly on punishment beatings. He also mentioned that he, the Taoiseach, believes the issue of councillors having representations dealt with by British Ministers was reasonable.
7. In conclusion the Taoiseach and Gerry Adams agreed to maintain contact and the Taoiseach agreed to meet with Martin McGuinness of Sinn Fein, if it was necessary, while Gerry Adams was away.