



# An Chartlann Náisiúnta National Archives

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IRISH EMBASSY, LONDON

*Claret*  
*W. H. H. H. H. H.*  
**FAX**

*27*  
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*95*

*cc P. Hume*  
*P. Teal*  
*S. Dale*  
*T. Dalton*  
*E. W. Fox*  
*Class A-2*

*h. G. G. G.*

Date: 24-5-95

Time: -----

Pages: 11 in total

To: ① P. Hume A/I  
For: ② Joint Secretary

From: The Irish Embassy

From: C. W. Fox

**Message**

- as supplied by the NIO (London)
- ① SOSNI <sup>interview</sup> ~~statement~~ after meeting with Mr Adams
  - ② SOSNI statement " " " "
  - ③ Brochure Mr Adams.

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Secretary of State's <sup>interview</sup> ~~statement~~ after meeting Garry Adams  
in Washington DC - 24/5/95.

I asked Mr Adams to come and see me because it gave me the opportunity since he was under the roof of this Conference here, which is a Trade and Investment Conference for Northern Ireland and for the border counties, it gave me the opportunity to say that Sinn Fein have one means by which they really could assist the prosperity of Northern Ireland and that was to make it abundantly clear that violence was over for good so far as Republican's were concerned.

I made it clear that I was going to give the same message just as plainly to loyalist politicians associated with paramilitaries at that end of the spectrum. I said that investment depended upon confidence that potential investors needed confidence that peace was established and enduring and that the violence was over for good.

I said that only those who said it was over for good knew truthfully what their intentions were and that the rest of us, and in particular potential investors, had to look for objective independent evidence to test whether there was consistency or inconsistency. And I said that many many people throughout Northern Ireland and much more widely found inconsistency in the continued retention of arms including semtex and missiles and heavy machine guns and mortars by the provisional IRA, they found that was inconsistent.

Why did they find it inconsistent? Because people say that if peace has come for good if violence is over for ever then what need is there to retain these arms and

munitions, ~~And~~ that was what had to be made clear. And I made that clear to Mr Adams and I said that so long as this pile of arms was undiminished then people would have a fear that it was going to start again and that was as bad a message for investors as it is possible to imagine. I said I am very glad that people are taking a greater interest in investing in Northern Ireland.

But I have spent the last three days in Boston and I have learned there of investors, people who are potential investors in Northern Ireland, who have been deterred and remain deterred by the uncertainty as to whether peace continues.

MORE WILL FOLLOW THURSDAY/ A.M.

05-25-1995 12:00AM FROM

TO 9011441232760120 P.05

THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT MADE BY THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND, SIR PATRICK  
MAYHEW QC MP, AT HIS MEETING WITH SINN FEIN PRESIDENT, MR  
GERRY ADAMS, IN WASHINGTON THIS EVENING:

It will, I hope, prove useful that you have accepted my invitation to meet me at this Conference.

I am assuming that you share my own desire to maximise the opportunities for jobs in Northern Ireland - jobs to which all have fair access - and that that is the reason why you are attending this Conference for Trade and Investment in Northern Ireland and the border counties. It is certainly mine.

I have an important point I want to make to you - as I will make to the loyalist politicians - about what is therefore our common objective.

Investment that will produce jobs in Northern Ireland is influenced by many things, but especially by peace and confidence that peace will endure. Certainly investors are wisely showing more interest in Northern Ireland, and that is very welcome; but investors in general make decisions for the long term, not the short or medium term. They need to know that in Northern Ireland a peace is in place, which they can rely on to continue.

Sinn Fein under your leadership can now best promote that confidence and encourage jobs for Northern Ireland now by using its influence with the IRA to get substantial progress on the decommissioning of their stock of arms and explosives.

It is certainly true that such progress would also allow Sinn Fein to move from exploratory dialogue into substantive political talks with the Government, which is something we want to happen, for you have a democratic mandate. We have no twin track approach to political talks - one for your party and another for all the rest. But it is about jobs and investment that I am making this point to you today.

Potential investors, like other people, cannot look into the minds of the paramilitaries and their political associates who speak of permanent peace. So they look for independent and objective evidence of consistency.

I will be making the same point just as bluntly to loyalist parties about arms held by paramilitaries associated with them.

So if jobs in Northern Ireland are to get maximum encouragement that perception must be dispelled. That is why progress in actual decommissioning now needs to begin, sufficient to demonstrate that peace is indeed intended to be permanent, and enough to signify the beginning of a process. That is why there now needs to be commitment to disarm progressively, and agreement on means of achieving that.

Sinn Fein can make no better contribution to the encouragement of jobs and investment than an assurance that these realities are to be accepted, and acted on.

I hope you will be able to respond positively.

FROM : CRI, Inc.

TEL: 301 231 0366

MAY. 24. 1995

8:58 PM

## **DOORSTEP BY GERRY ADAMS AFTER HIS MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE IN WASHINGTON ON 24 MAY 1994**

**Mr Adams:**

I want to say first of all that we had a very useful meeting, a frank and friendly and positive exchange of views. I think we both come away from this meeting with an understanding of each other's position. I outlined my view that as a Irish republican we aim to see an end to British rule in our country and a new and agreed Ireland. And we accepted that others have a different view. So we need to move forward into all-party talks to bring about fundamental, political and constitutional change. I welcomed the British Government's acceptance and assertion that an internal settlement was not a solution. I outlined our concern about the political prisoners, the need for total demilitarisation of the situation, a total democratisation of the situation and the need for all of us to move forward to bring a spurt of generosity and leadership to these and I do think that tonight's meeting has helped to bridge the gap between Sinn Fein and the British Government.

### Question

Would you characterise it as substantive which is what you said you wanted going into the meeting, rather than symbolic?

### Answer

Yes, I think that we required both symbolism and substance and the fact that for the first time in a very long time that I, as a representative of that section of the Irish electorate which supports Sinn Fein, was able to spell out our position and able to listen, because dialogue is a two-way process, made it a substantive meeting.

### Question

Mr Adams, what was your reaction if this was exactly what Patrick Mayhew said, Sinn Fein under your leadership can now best promote that confidence and encourage jobs for Northern Ireland by using its influence with the IRA to get substantial progress on the de-commissioning. Did he put that firmly to you?

25/05/95

06:36

PAB STORMONT HOUSE 0232 520700  
TEL: 301 231 0366

MAY, 24, 1995

002  
8:50 PM P 3

FROM : CRI, Inc.

Answer

Well, Patrick Mayhew will give you his own view of what he said. On the issue of jobs and investment the Clinton Administration, and President Clinton is hosting this conference, it is an open door policy and I pointed out that in fact that open door policy, pursued also by the Irish Taoiseach, John Bruton, sets an example to the British Government so much that all the main parties are here. I also pointed out that discrimination against Catholics was one of the concerns raised to me by would-be investors.

Question

Can you do business with this man?

Answer

Absolutely. I think that we can all, and we all have a responsibility, to move the situation forward and I am pleased that we had such a positive and frank exchange of views.

Question

Are you disappointed that you did not shake hands in public for the cameras?

Answer

No, I think that in all of these matters we are trying to narrow gaps and trying to make it easier for people who essentially are our political opponents, and we are engaging in a process mindful that perhaps as I said to him, he is a little bit coy with some of these situations. But lets acknowledge the fact that he did the right thing in having this meeting. I am disappointed that the Unionists have taken up the position that they have taken up but I think it throws a responsibility on everyone - on Patrick Mayhew, on myself. Mr Hume has played a central role in all this on John Bruton, the Irish Taoiseach and others in the Dublin parliament and also upon James Molyneaux and Ian Paisley. There is a responsibility upon all of us to see today's meeting positively and move the whole situation forward.

Question

Is the peace unstoppable now do you think, Mr Adams?

Answer

Well we have not got a peace settlement and we will get a peace settlement when all of the parties with an electoral mandate on the basis of equality are gathered around a table hammering out, seeking agreement and finding agreement on the type of new Ireland that

Question  
Did you take on board Patrick Mayhew's remarks about de-commissioning of IRA weapons?

Answer  
Well I have pointed out to you and to others for some long time, and I pointed it out to Patrick Mayhew also, that demilitarisation requires the removal of all the guns from Irish politics, requires the de-commissioning of repressive legislation, requires the release of all of the prisoners. Lets move this situation forward to seek the resolution of all of these issues and if there is agreement on the objectives then it is a matter of seeking agreement on how we actually bring that about.

Question  
What was his response to that?

Answer  
Well, I think it would be better if we let Patrick Mayhew speak for himself.

Question  
It sounds like you both pretty much laid out your well-established position. Would that be an accurate assessment that no real negotiating or progress took place. It was basically a statement of positions.

Answer  
No, I made the point and I repeat it here, that going into the meeting I wanted to leave in a situation where he, reflecting on tonight's meeting, would be assured of Sinn Fein's commitment to bringing about a lasting peace in our country and I think if he reflects on that and if he comes to that opinion that will mark a very considerable psychological leap forward for the British Government.

Question  
Mr Adams, what sort of a guy is he do you think now, having had a chance to suss him out at close quarters?

Answer  
I can say that we had a frank and positive meeting and I think it will be the first of other meetings and we need to move ahead. It was an important session, an important step and there will be other steps and we will move forward and the way to move forward is as John Hume and I said at the very beginning, through dialogue.

25/05/95

06:37

PAB STORMONT HOUSE 0232 520700

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FROM : CRI. Inc.

TEL: 301 231 0366

MAY. 24. 1995

8:52 PM

P 5

Question

Do you think the next time you meet (unclear) in front of the cameras?

Answer

I have no fixation with cameras. I think we exchange pleasantries and courtesies and it does not need always necessarily to be done in the full public gaze. We are concerned more with making peace than making pictures.

Question

Did you shake hands at the end of the meeting as well as at the beginning?

Answer

Yes.

Question

Do you regard the meeting as cordial?

Answer

Yes, a friendly, positive, frank and very useful exchange of views.

Question

Will you be seeking a further meeting at an early stage?

Answer

Well you may know that Martin McGuinness had a meeting today with Michael Ancram in Stormont. Martin and I and the rest of our delegates and our Ard Cholla will consult both on this meeting with Patrick Mayhew and on Martin's meeting with Michael Ancram and we all seek to move the situation forward. You know it is quite clear that the policy of decontamination of Sinn Fein has ended. Marginalisation does not work. Lets all move toward on the basis of equality.

Question

Are you happy you are now being treated in the same way as all the other political parties with all the developments of the past week?

FROM : CRI, Inc.

TEL: 301 231 0366

MAY. 24. 1995 8:52 PM P-6

Answer

I think what is important. This is not a personal thing. Leaders come and leaders go. It isn't an ego trip. It isn't even in many ways about Sinn Fein. It is about those people who vote for us. They are not second-class citizens, they are first-class citizens and everyone needs to be treated on the same basis. Why did the six county state collapse? Because it was based on inequality.

Question

Mr Adams, did you break bread with Mr Mayhew? He gave you a handshake, what will you give him?

Answer

Well I extended the hand of friendship and he clasped it, so lets move forward into building a lasting peace.