

SIR,

Pol 35/68(1)

THE LEADERSHIP OF THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT ORDERED A UNILATERAL SUSPENSION OF OFFENSIVE MILITARY ACTION IN BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ON DECEMBER 22ND 1974. IN DOING SO, WE ASKED FOR A RECIPROCAL RESPONSE FROM THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND A REPLY TO OUR PEACE PROPOSALS GIVEN TO MR. REES ON DECEMBER 19TH BY THE FEAKLE CHURCHMEN.

AFTER SUSTAINING THE SUSPENSION OF OPERATIONS FOR 26 DAYS AND PROVING OUR SINCERE DESIRE FOR A LASTING PEACE BY THE TOTAL ABSENCE OF ACTION ON THE PART OF OUR FORCES, WE WERE UNABLE TO RENEW THE ORDER SUSPENDING OPERATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

- (A) THERE WAS NO SATISFACTORY REPLY FROM THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO OUR PEACE PROPOSALS SEMICOLON
- (B) THE RESPONSE ON THE PART OF H.M. FORCES ON THE GROUND AND THE NUMBER OF POLITICAL PRISONERS RELEASED WAS MEANINGLESS TO OUR PEOPLE.

WE THEREFORE RESUMED A POSITION OF HOSTILITIES FROM JANUARY 16TH, 1975. WE ALSO MADE IT CLEAR WE WERE WILLING TO ENGAGE IN MEANINGFUL TALKS WITH THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES TO SECURE AN HONOURABLE AND PERMANENT END TO THIS CONFLICT.

ON JANUARY 18TH, WE RECEIVED A REQUEST TO MAKE TWO REPRESENTATIVES AVAILABLE FOR DISCUSSIONS IN PRIVATE WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF H.M.G. WE DID SO AND SINCE THEN FOUR MEETINGS HAVE TAKEN PLACE. WE NOTED MR. REES' STATEMENT ABOUT QUOTE EFFECTIVE ARRANGEMENTS UNQUOTE BEING DEvised TO ENSURE THAT A NEW TRUCE WOULD NOT BREAKDOWN. ACCORDINGLY, WE GAVE OUR REPRESENTATIVES TWELVE POINTS (COPY ATTACHED) WHICH WE CONSIDER NECESSARY FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF A TRUCE.

24/1/75.

CIRCA [JAN
FEB 75
(H.M.G.)]

TERMS FOR BI-LATERAL TRUCE

1. FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT.
2. A CESSATION OF ALL HARASSMENT OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION.
3. A CESSATION OF ALL RAIDS ON LANDS, HOMES AND OTHER BUILDINGS.
4. A CESSATION OF ARRESTS OF MEMBERS OF THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT.
5. AN END OF SCREENING, PHOTOGRAPHING AND IDENTITY CHECKS.
6. MEMBERS OF THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT RESERVE THE RIGHT TO CARRY CONCEALED SHORT ARMS SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF SELF-DEFENCE.
7. NO PROVOCATIVE DISPLAYS OF FORCES BY EITHER SIDE.
8. NO REINTRODUCTION OF RUC AND UDR INTO DESIGNATED AREAS.
9. AGREEMENT ON EFFECTIVE LIAISON SYSTEM BETWEEN BRITISH AND REPUBLICAN FORCES.
10. A PROGRESSIVE WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS TO BARRACKS TO BEGIN WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BI-LATERAL TRUCE.
11. CONFIRMATION THAT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT AND HMG WILL CONTINUE TOWARDS SECURING A PERMANENT CEASEFIRE.
12. IN THE EVENT OF ANY OF THESE TERMS BEING VIOLATED, THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT OF FREEDOM OF ACTION.

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THESE POINTS WERE DISCUSSED AT LENGTH WITH HMG REPRESENTATIVES ON TUESDAY, 21ST INST. A SECOND MEETING WAS ARRANGED FOR THE FOLLOWING DAY. ONLY ONE HMG REPRESENTATIVE TURNED UP FOR THAT MEETING AND HE STATED HE WAS UNABLE TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS. WE ALSO NOTED MR. REES' STATEMENT OF THE 23RD INST., TERMINATING DIALOGUE WITH PROVISIONAL SINN FEIN.

WE REGRET THESE DEVELOPMENTS AND BELIEVE THEY WILL LEAD TO A WORSENING SITUATION. AFTER NEARLY A MONTH OF GENUINE AND SUSTAINED SUSPENSION OF HOSTILITIES, WE WERE UNABLE TO REPORT ANY SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS TO OUR MOVEMENT AND PEOPLE. WE BELIEVE THE ADOPTION OF OUR TWELVE POINTS FOR A BI-LATERAL TRUCE WILL BREAK THE PRESENT IMPASSE AND PAVE THE WAY TOWARDS A PERMANENT END TO THIS AGE OLD PROBLEM.

WE TRUST YOU, MR. PRIME MINISTER, WILL GIVE THESE POINTS YOUR CONSIDERATION AND FORWARD A REPLY TO US. ON OUR PART, WE SHALL SUSPEND ALL OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS IN BRITAIN FROM MIDNIGHT, MONDAY 28TH JANUARY, 1975. THE ADOPTION OF THE TWELVE POINTS WILL RESULT IN A SUSPENSION OF HOSTILITIES IN NORTHERN IRELAND AS WELL. WE REITERATE OUR SINCERITY TO EXPLORE EVERY AVENUE TO SECURE AN HONOURABLE AND PERMANENT END TO THIS WAR.

24.1.1975

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TERMS FOR BI-LATERAL TRUCE

1. Freedom of movement for all members of the Republican Movement.
2. A cessation of all harassment of the civilian population.
3. A cessation of all raids on lands, homes and other buildings.
4. A cessation of arrests of members of the Republican Movement.
5. An end to screening, photographing and identity checks.
6. Members of the Republican Movement reserve the right to carry concealed short arms solely for the purpose of self-defence.
7. No provocative displays of force by either side.
8. No reintroduction of R.U.C. and U.D.R. into designated areas.
9. Agreement of effective liaison system between British and Republican Forces.
10. A progressive withdrawal of troops to barracks to begin with the implementation of the bi-lateral truce.
11. Confirmation that discussions between representatives of the Republican Movement and H.M.G. will continue towards securing a permanent ceasefire.
12. In the event of any of these terms being violated, the Republican Movement reserve the right of freedom of action.

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66% immediate
further sess- to-morrow
evening / Ben Belfort.

Act. f- is taking
awa for Ben Powers

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THIS IS A COMMUNIQUE SENT (PASSED) TO
PM WILSON.

IT DETAILS THE 12 TERMS FOR THE TRUCE.
(EXTRA COPY IS BEHIND).

IT IS DATED 24/1/75.

IT STATES THAT PIKA. GAVE PEACE PROPOSALS
TO REES ~~AT THE FEAKLE~~ ON 15TH DEC. 74. BY
THE FEAKLE CHURCHMEN.

PIKA MET AT FEAKLE 10/12/74. (PT. 174-76