

3RD SPACE

POL35/556(1)

18 Oct 1998

A Chara

There is an alternative position which ^{will} I call the third space. I have reason to believe that the church authorities may agree albeit reluctantly to provide a space where arms could be held and verified by yourself and the International Independent Arms committee to be of commission.

The idea comes from the early christian notion of sanctuary a word which ~~could not~~ would be inappropriate for this proposal but I use it to illustrate the idea. The move into the third space could have grave consequences for the church authorities if it were misunderstood. ~~These risks could be minimised if more than one church~~

But the risks could be minimised by agreement reached in advance between the Brit + Irish ^{Govts} ~~authorities~~ and General de Chastelain.

The space would be private and the church authorities would be seen as being neutral a role which they would find very difficult to adopt and defend but over the last thirty years we have all had difficult roles in the struggle for peace.

June

Emmet's writing (end)

3RD SPACE

POU35/556(3)

October 18th 1998

A Chara,

There is an alternative position which I will call the third space. I have reason to believe that the church authorities would agree (albeit reluctantly) to provide a space, where arms could be held and verified by yourself and the International Independent Arms Committee to be 'out of commission.'

The idea comes from the early Christian notion of sanctuary. A word which would be inappropriate for this proposal, but I use it to illustrate the idea. This move into the third space could have grave consequences for the church authorities if it were misunderstood. The risks could be minimised by agreement reached in advance between the British and Irish Governments, yourself and General de Chastelain.

The third space would be private, and the church authorities would be seen as being neutral, a role which they would find very difficult to adopt and defend, but over the last thirty years we have all had difficult roles in the struggle for peace.

June