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Reference Code:	2005/7/607
Title:	Agreed statement issued following a meeting between Taoiseach Liam Cosgrave and Prime Minister Harold Wilson in London, discussing the Northern Ireland situation.
Creation Date(s):	5 April, 1974
Level of description:	Item
Extent and medium:	2 pages
Creator(s):	Department of the Taoiseach
Access Conditions:	Open
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ON BEHALF OF	THAR CEANN
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Meeting between the Taoiseach, Mr. Liam Cosgrave, T.D., and the Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Wilson, on 5 April, 1974.

Agreed Statement

The Taoiseach had talks with the Prime Minister at 10 Downing Street today and afterwards was entertained to lunch. The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland were also present. The Taoiseach was accompanied by the Tánaiste, Mr. Brendan Corish, T.D., and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Garret Fitzgerald, T.D.

The general political situation and the security situation in Northern Ireland were reviewed. It was agreed that progress in both areas is interrelated. The elimination of violence is a primary aim in the efforts to establish stable, acceptable institutions with which the community can identify and a normal political life in which those who want changes are at liberty to argue for them and to persuade.

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The Taoiseach and the Prime Minister agreed that in order to ensure the early formal signing of the Sunningdale Agreement the necessary preparatory work agreed at the Sunningdale Conference should be completed as soon as possible. It was essential to political progress that all the arrangements provided for in the Northern Ireland Constitution Act, the subsequent agreement on power sharing and the Sunningdale settlement should be seen as serving together to bring about peace, stability and progress.

The problem of violence in Northern Ireland, which has had such tragic consequences for so many of its people, was discussed. Both Governments reaffirmed their determination to intensify measures against violence. So far as local incidents of violence in relation to the border were concerned, it was noted that the recent series of meetings between senior officers of the Garda Síochána and the R.U.C. will lead to closer cooperation between the forces of law and order in both parts of Ireland.

When the Law Enforcement Commission, agreed at Sunningdale, recommends in the immediate future the most practical and effective means of dealing with fugitive offenders, both Governments will forthwith take the necessary action.

5 April, 1974.