

1994

CEASEFIRE

Resource

2

B.T. 196 L.U.
BELFAST

POST CARD



I reject
violence &
call for peace

Call for peace

PO Box 4
Belfast
BT1 96 LU

BT 19 6LC

No more violence
Box 4

A Digitisation and
Outreach Project from
the Linen Hall Library

Peace letters



From an original painted with the youth by
PETER LEAH
Painted for the DISABLED ARTISTS, CORK

A
GCSE
Toolkit

Keep up the good
work.



From an original painted with the youth by
PETER LEAH
Painted for the DISABLED ARTISTS, CORK

Channellon
Never Co Meath



**DIVIDED
SOCIETY**

Northern Ireland 1990 - 1998

PLEASE NO MORE VIOLENCE



Project and Curriculum Information

Introduction

This education resource was created as part of the Linen Hall Library's 'Divided Society' project. It is a learning tool aimed at GCSE students studying the 1990s period, however those studying politics and history subjects will also find its material relevant. The resource can be used to stimulate debate and will help towards the development of empathy and understanding of the topic. Included in the resource are samples of political cartoons, newspaper front pages and political posters. Materials are held at the Linen Hall Library.

Key areas of interest include:

- Ceasefires
- Bill Clinton's Visit
- The Good Friday Agreement
- The Referendum
- First Day of Power-Sharing

Students will develop skills in:

- Research
- Thinking critically/analysing
- Reading/using primary sources
- Developing an understanding of history's value and significance for today's society
- Developing an awareness of how the past has been represented, interpreted and given significance for different reasons and purposes
- Acquiring an understanding of different identities within society and an appreciation of social, cultural, and religious diversity
- Recognising that their historical knowledge and skills help them understand the present and also provides them with a basis for their role as responsible citizens, as well as for the possible further study of history.

Early Negotiations

Before the first IRA ceasefire, key figures were involved in talks. Three of these figures were:

John Hume and Gerry Adams

Despite fierce criticism from political opponents, SDLP leader Hume insisted that the IRA could be persuaded to lay down its arms. Hume held talks with Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams about calling a ceasefire and produced a document for peace which wasn't made public at the time. This document was dismissed by the then British Prime Minister John Major. Hume was disappointed but continued with his mission to find a way forward. His life was threatened during these talks by Loyalist paramilitaries and he came under suspicion from some Unionist politicians. Hume's main aim was to achieve a total cessation of violence in order to progress towards an 'agreement' by all parties on lasting peace.

Albert Reynolds

Former Irish Taoiseach Albert Reynolds, like Hume, put a total cessation of violence at the top of his agenda when entering the talks. One of his first acts upon being elected to the Dáil was to telephone British Prime Minister John Major to seek his support in ending violence. Meetings were held with key figures within local communities, including churchmen, business people and others, to open up contact with the Republican movement. During November 1993 talks intensified and in December these talks led to the historic Downing Street Declaration. It was a significant breakthrough.

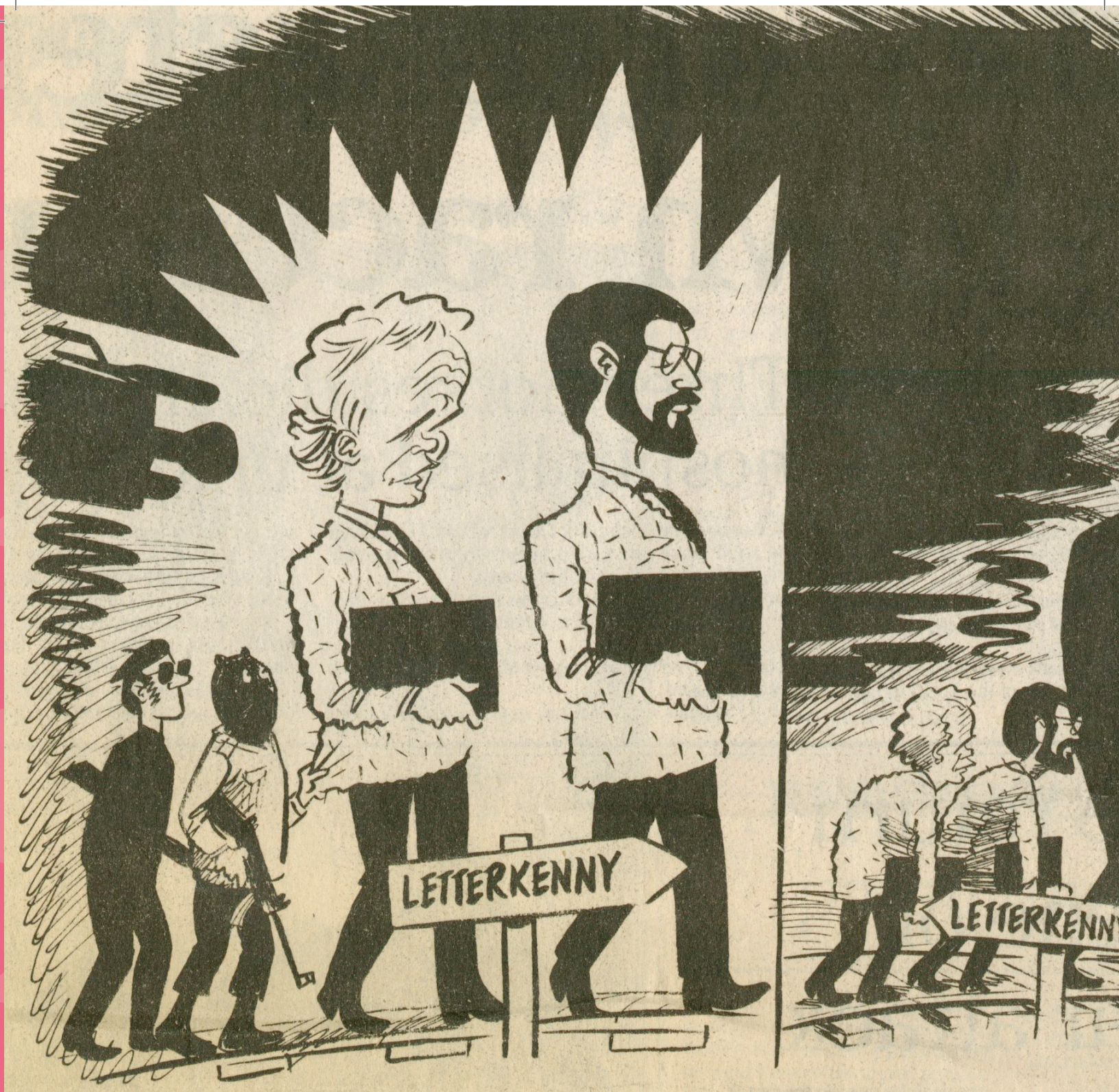
Keep
ULSTER
British

ULSTER
Not
For Sale

Ulster
No
Sell-out



Courtesy of The Irish Times



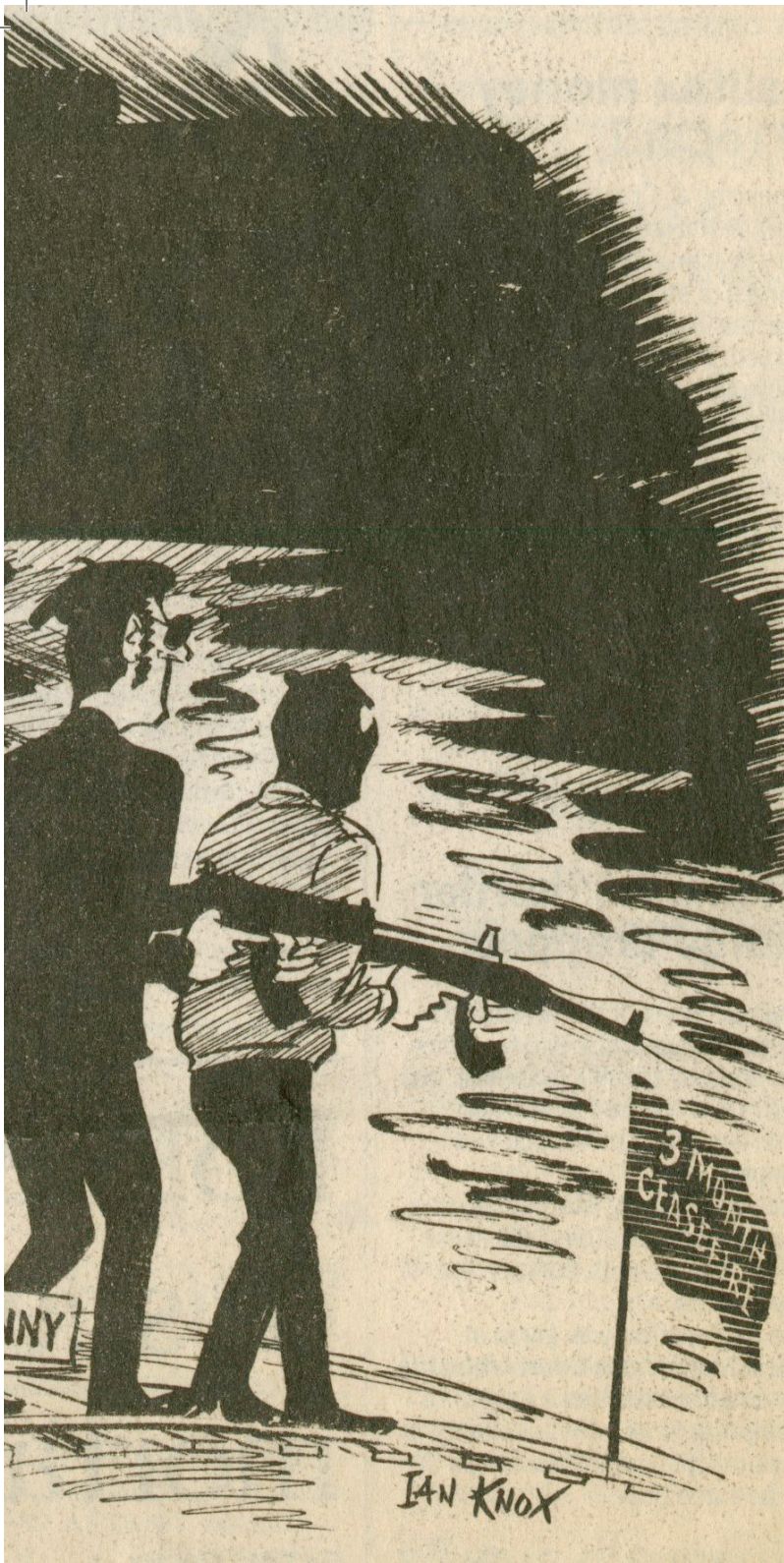
Cartoon by Ian Knox courtesy of The Irish News

1. Who are the people in the cartoon and what do they represent?

.....

.....

.....



Letterkenny Conference

Once terms had been negotiated with Hume and Reynolds, Adams then presented a document at a conference held by Sinn Féin in Letterkenny on 24th of July 1994. At this conference the Downing Street Declaration was rejected. However, on the 31st of August 1994, the IRA announced a 'complete cessation of military operations' from midnight. The announcement was welcomed by the public with rallies being held. The government wanted to ensure that the ceasefire was 'permanent' so were cautious to welcome the announcement. The ceasefire was sealed by Taoiseach Albert Reynolds, John Hume and Gerry Adams.

On the 13th of October 1994 the Combined Loyalist Military Command also announced a ceasefire. Arms decommissioning would be the next step to build confidence before the talks leading towards an 'agreement' began.



2. What changes in the cartoon? What do you think the cartoonist is trying to say?

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.....

.....

General Questions

1. Who is John Hume? Who did he work closely with to achieve a ceasefire?
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2. What does 'demilitarisation' mean?
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.....
.....
3. Why do you think John Hume faced criticism from other politicians and members of his party?
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.....
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4. How long did the first IRA ceasefire in 1994 last?
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.....
.....
5. What would the ceasefires lead to in Northern Ireland?
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.....
.....



This paper dove was made and carried by a child at one of the many peace rallies

No More Violence.

Letters Against Violence (1996)

Many people wanted a peaceful Northern Ireland to become a long term reality. The public had a very strong voice, taking part in marches for peace, designing posters calling for a ceasefire, and writing to local politicians. Below you can see postcards which were written by the public as part of a campaign called 'No More Violence'. The campaign was started by a local husband and wife who felt strongly about their child growing up in a Northern Ireland without violence. They successfully received more than a million signatures which they delivered to political parties.

Questions

1. Why do you think this campaign was successful?

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2. Write a peace message describing what changes you would hoped to have seen in Northern Ireland in 1996.

.....

.....

.....

3. Why do you think so many people from around the world got involved in the campaign? How did they know about The Troubles?

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.....

.....

No More Violence
Please count us
in

(family of five)

POST CARD

I reject
violence +
call for peace

Call
PO B
Beelja
BTI

Gypsy Caravan
Courtesy Derragarrá Inn Folk Museum, Ballyshannon, Co. Cavan

Co. Cavan

PC 309

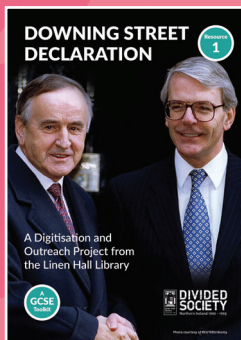
Please give peace a
chance by talking
it through. Bombs
+ bullets only bring
grief + misery.
Keep up the good
work.



Never Co. Meath

NO MORE
VIOLENCE!

PLEASE NO MORE VIOLENCE



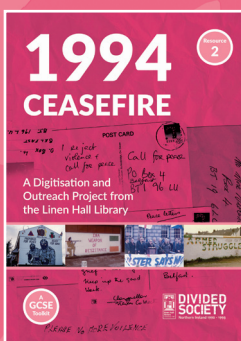
DOWNING STREET DECLARATION

Resource
1



DIVIDED SOCIETY

Northern Ireland 1990 - 1998



1994 CEASEFIRE

Resource
2

Since 1968 the Linen Hall Library has been collecting material relating to the conflict in Northern Ireland. Over the years the Library has become the repository for a vast amount of material relating to the subject and the subsequent Peace Process.



BILL CLINTON'S VISIT TO NORTHERN IRELAND

Resource
3

The Northern Ireland Political Collection now consists of over 350,000 items including books, pamphlets, leaflets, posters, manifestos, press releases, newspapers, objects and many thousands of periodicals. It is a completely unique collection that is unrivalled throughout the world.

The Divided Society project sees a significant section of the Northern Ireland Political Collection digitised. The project is funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Ulster Garden Villages, and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

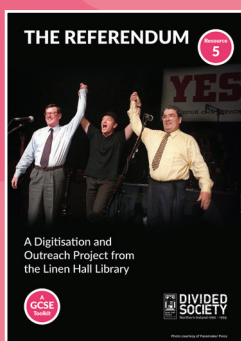


THE AGREEMENT

Resource
4

Hundreds of Periodical titles relating to the conflict have been digitised and made available from the new Divided Society website. These are publications that were published between 1990-1998 in the UK, Ireland and further afield, and documented the issues that affected Northern Ireland during that period.

This was a significant time in Northern Ireland's history and included events such as the Downing Street Declaration, several ceasefires, and the ongoing peace negotiations which culminated in the signing of the Good Friday Agreement.



THE REFERENDUM

Resource
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ULSTER GARDEN VILLAGES LIMITED



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



FIRST DAY OF POWER-SHARING

Resource
6

Note of thanks

The Linen Hall Library would like to thank The Irish News, The News Letter, Ian Knox, The Northern Ireland Office, Marian Ferguson, Jim McBride and all those who have assisted with the creation of this education project and allowed us to visit their schools. Without your contribution this would not have been possible.

www.linenhall.com
www.dividedsociety.org