



Department for

**Communities**

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# Release of 1995 files at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland



**PRONI**

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## ***Using the documents***

When using the documents held at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI), please ensure that you acknowledge PRONI's custody of the original files and give the full PRONI document reference number.

Please note that in the 1995 file list; any file reference bearing 'A' at the end denotes the open part of a file which has been partially closed.

For example, the file *CENT/1/24/14A* refers to the open part of a file, whereas *CENT/1/24/14* refers to the part of that file withheld under certain exemptions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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## ***PRONI ON CAIN***

PRONI on CAIN (Conflict Archive on the Internet) is a joint project between the Ulster University and PRONI which has resulted in digitised images of key documents from previous PRONI file releases being made freely available to view online for researchers and students. PRONI on CAIN includes over 2300 public records comprising 9,700 pages of content on the troubles and political developments from 1968-1990. For further details of the documents available, please visit

<http://cain.ulst.ac.uk/proni/index.html>



## Introduction

The files are being released under the 30/20 Year Rule.

The annual release of selected official files continues against a background of greater public access through the Freedom of Information Act balanced against the need to protect personal information. The FOI Act (2000) created a new access to information regime and all records were reviewed in accordance with the Act, and the Data Protection legislation.

Annually since 1976, official records held by PRONI which were 30 years old have been reviewed with a view to making them publicly available (“the 30 year rule”). In September 2011, the Assembly accepted a Legislative Consent Motion to reduce the time limit for release from 30 years to 20 years (“the 20 year Rule”). This is underpinned by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the amendments made to it by the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012.

The 20 Year Rule is being phased in over 10 years, with two years’ worth of records being reviewed and released each year. This year, the records of NI Departments and the NIO with terminal dates of 1995 were brought forward for release during August 2019 and the records of 1996 are being brought forward for release during December 2019.

This process involves the referral of the files to the Responsible Authority for sensitivity review. This entails a page by page examination to ensure that a record contains nothing sensitive as defined by the FOI Act, and Data Protection legislation.

## Records Released

**530** files being deemed as suitable for release as “fully open”. A further **172** files are open but subject to blanking out of some content. **45** files remain closed in full, the bulk of which are individual prisoner files and Honours files.

The main file series being released includes Central Secretariat.

Some of the significant issues covered by the 1995 release include:

- Talks and political developments between the Northern Ireland parties and the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland
- Ceasefires
- Normalisation of security measures
- Cross border economic cooperation
- Exploratory dialogue
- White House Conference
- Anglo Irish Intergovernmental Conference
- Secretary of State's briefings on various NI issues
- Community Relations
- Parades
- Cross Harbour Bridge and opening of Great Victoria Street Railway station
- Countryside management and development
- Fair employment
- Irish Medium Education
- Initial talks on prisoner release
- Tourism
- Youth training
- Rural development
- Mineral Exploration of the Irish Sea
- Privatisation of Harland and Wolff

Records may be closed either fully or in part only. Blanking out involves the removal of a limited number of papers from the file that have been deemed as exempt from the right to know under FOI. To facilitate the release of as much information as possible, redaction can be used to blank out sensitive data within individual

documents that would otherwise prevent release. All information which is withheld in the manner outlined above, however, must be retained in accordance with the exemptions contained within the FOI Act. In the majority of cases, the reason for extended closure was the application of section 40 – the *personal information* exemption – of the FOI Act. This means that personal information is exempt from the right to know if it would breach Data Protection legislation.



## 1995 Highlighted Files

### Central Secretariat

**CENT/1/20/30A 1990 – 1995 CCRU Drumcree Faith and Justice Group**

File contains papers relating to a cross community group in the Drumcree area. The papers consist of non-party political views particularly on the Joint Declaration. Reverend Shillington from the group advised that “local people did not ultimately feel the Government had gone too far, and thereby substituted anger for apathy...Overall he did not feel the UUP had much to fear as a result of accepting the declaration.” Father Lennon from the same group gave a nationalist perspective but believed “Sinn Fein’s bluff should be called. Even if they wanted to talk about amnesties or other second-order issues, Government would, he believed, lose nothing from entering such negotiations, even before violence had been renounced. Only then would we know if Sinn Fein were serious,” dated 28 April 1994.

**CENT/1/22/1 1993 - 1995 Northern Ireland “Bull Points” Foreign and Commonwealth Office**

File contains confidential papers including: updates on the security situation and the security response to the ceasefire, the reopening of closed border roads on target for completion by mid-1995 and the removal of exclusion orders on Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness. Amongst the papers are the FCO bull points on Northern Ireland on the joint declaration and the commencement of exploratory dialogue in December 1994.

**CENT/1/24/21A 1992-1995 Royal Irish Regiment**

File contains confidential papers including: correspondence between John Steele, Assistant Under Secretary, NIO and Brigadier David Strudley, Chief of Staff, Army Headquarters Northern Ireland, about the perception of the Royal Irish Regiment and its place in the regular army; award of the Freedom of the Borough of Carrickfergus to the Royal Irish Regiment, 15 May, 1993; and correspondence about the merger of the Ulster Defence Regiment and the Royal Irish Rangers and the draft army bill, Jan-Feb. 1992.

**CENT/1/24/23A 1992-1995 P[ri]me M[in]ister's Meetings (Irish Ministers) (Political Parties), etc.**

File contains correspondence between the Prime Minister's Office, and Ministers across Whitehall including: 20 Feb. 1992 letter from NIO to J.S. Wall Private Secretary, 10 Downing Street about a call on the Prime Minister by James Kilfedder MP 'on his suggestion that we might seek to persuade the Catholic Church to excommunicate PIRA terrorists...; memo dated 6 Jan. 1995 about the merits of Prime Minister, John Major, having meetings with Dr John Alderdice and John Hume MP prior to the Joint Framework being brought to completion, commenting on personalities and issues; possible visit by the Prime Minister to an Orange Lodge, dated 16 Jan. 1995, NIO Minister Michael Ancram, '...personally thinks that a visit to an Orange Lodge would be difficult to balance and would be over-reaching.'; letter from Roderic Lyne, Private Secretary, 10 Downing Street, about a meeting between the Prime Minister, John Major and Archbishop Eames, '...he told me that the Church of Ireland Bishops wanted to discuss the Framework documents...He implied that the Bishops felt they had a better reading of the public mood than UUP MPs...'

**CENT/1/24/24A 1992 – 1995 Electoral Abuse in Northern Ireland (including analysis of West Belfast Results) (Meetings with political parties)**

File contains confidential papers relating to electoral matters. Some of the issues covered include: Mr Bradley's (Chief Electoral Officer) invite to act as an electoral advisor in the South African elections, the decision over including Sinn Fein in the consultation process on candidate's expenses, and accusations of electoral abuse. Much of the papers focus on the election of Joe Hendron in West Belfast and the allegation of overspending on candidates expenses. This election race was between Joe Hendron of SDLP and Gerry Adams of Sinn Fein

**CENT/1/24/26A 1993-1995**

**Ministers Meetings (and S[ecretary] of S[tate]) with R[epublic] o[f] I[reland] Ministers**

The file contains confidential papers including: a summary of an information meeting with Dick Spring, Tanaiste, in Dublin on 22 January 1993, reviewing the current political situation, views on Northern Ireland political parties and leaders and what the respective governments could do to make progress.

**CENT/1/24/27A 1993 – 1995**

**Political Developments in Northern Ireland.**

File contains a number of confidential briefings from the NIO in the wake of signing the Joint declaration, the IRA ceasefire and the beginning of exploratory dialogue. In a note dated 7 April 1995, it states “the highlight for Sinn

Fein however was the international recognition given to Adams by President Clinton on St Patrick’s Day, and the American decision to lift the ban on Sinn Fein fundraising.” The same note reports on reactions to the Frameworks “with a generally favourable response from the Nationalist/ Republican parties; a bitterly antagonistic reaction from mainstream Unionists; and Alliance, the Churches the business community and the Loyalist parties adopting varying postures of less than outright rejection.” Rumours of a UUP leadership challenged surfaced, but there appeared to be uncertainty over the direction the party might take. The assessment of the DUP in the same document, remarked their “apocalyptic analysis of political development remained consistent throughout the period....the party’s response to the Frameworks was a balance between outrage at the unacceptability of the proposals and triumph at the extent to which their predictions of constitutional disaster had been proved right” The SDLP it is noted maintained a relatively low profile in this period, with widespread welcome and relief for the revised Boundary Commission recommendations. An earlier summary of political updates for July to September 1994 notes the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the troubles and is divided into pre-ceasefire updates and post-ceasefire. A meeting between Albert Reynolds, Gerry Adams and John Hume in the wake of the ceasefire was considered “to reflect indecent haste, although clearly designed to tie Adams into a process from which he personally would not be able to escape no matter what the Republican Movement did.”

**CENT/1/24/29A 1993-1995**

**Secretary of State Meetings from April 1993**

File contains confidential papers including: note for the record of a meeting between the Secretary of State, Sir Patrick Mayhew with Dr John Alderdice, dated 22 Mar. 1995, discussing the Frameworks document, reaction of Northern Ireland political parties and leaders, north/south relations, etc; note of security briefing with Mrs Jean Kennedy Smith, US Ambassador to Ireland, dated 9 Sept. 1993, PN Bell wrote, ' I did my best not to come across as a stuffy Brit and, in fact I quite warmed to Mrs Kennedy Smith, who laughed at my jokes and had a pleasant twinkle in her eye'; note for the records of a breakfast meeting with Raymond Seitz, US Ambassador to the UK, Savoy Hotel, 23 July 1993, briefing on the Northern Ireland political situation.

**CENT/1/24/40A 1994 – 1995**

**CCRU – Equality – Meetings with Anglo-Irish Secretariat Part 4**

File contains confidential papers and minutes of the Anglo Irish Conference. In a meeting of the Anglo Irish secretariat on 20 April 1995, a discussion on the Apprentice Boys parade on 17 April on Lower Ormeau Road was discussed. "Mr Farrell said that the Irish side welcomed the RUC decision to re-route the Apprentice Boys Parade away from the Lower Ormeau on Easter Monday but went on to say that although the decisions was made on the morning of the parade, the Irish side would have preferred to have been informed of this decision in advance; the Irish side found it inconceivable that HMG Ministers would not have prior knowledge of such events." In response Mr Kyle remarked "clearly the full concept of 'operational independence' is still not understood by them."

**CENT/1/24/44 1995**

**Official Committee on Northern Ireland Questions (NIQO)**

File details the establishment of NIQO by Cabinet Office which will shadow the NI Committee. The European Union had offered assistance to aid the process of peace in Northern Ireland and as a first step had announced an increase in its contribution to the International Fund for Ireland.

**CENT/1/24/45A 1994 – 1995 Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental conference – General – Part 6**

File contains details of discussions on the Intergovernmental conference. Amongst the papers are discussions on Private Lee Clegg, free cross border travel for pensioners, and the future of policing. On the issue of parades, the Irish side acknowledged the difficult work of the RUC in a meeting dated 28 April 1995. The Tánaiste, Dick Spring, stated “the Irish side would like to co-operate with the British side on the issue, and he advised that they have strongly recommended the lower Ormeau residents, and those with influence in the area, to keep a dignified and non-triumphalist approach.”

**CENT/1/24/46 1994 - 1995 Self Help Centres for released Long Term Prisoners**

File contains details of proposals for the reintegration of long term prisoners following their release and discussions between various bodies (NIACRO, Probation Board (PBNI), NIO ...) A letter from JM Legge (NIO) expresses his opinions on the Chief Probation Officer that the NIO will be blamed as “foot-dragging” and “unimaginative” in respect to the NIO’s hesitation to proceed with two separate self-help centres for paramilitary prisoners. The papers place the reintegration of prisoners in the context of discussions around the potential exploratory dialogue which is taking place concurrently.

**CENT/1/24/47A 1994 – 1995 Exploratory Dialogue**

File contains details of the exploratory dialogue carried out with Sinn Fein. A range of issues are discussed including ceasefires, cessation of violence, punishment beatings, parity of equality for Sinn Fein with other parties, socio-economic issues, police reform, families of the disappeared, Irish medium education and decommissioning. The seventh meeting on exploratory dialogue announces the Secretary of State’s decision to cease the withholding of government assistance to groups associated with Conway Mill. During the talks of 1<sup>st</sup> February 1995, both sides are forced to adjourn, due to maintenance works in Parliament Buildings, to which Martin

McGuinness quipped “he had assumed the Government team had already got the microphones in.” In a confidential letter dated 14 June 1995 PN Bell remarked on the subject of the Molyneaux/Hume social & economic discussions. “Negatively, you may have been struck as I was in Washington by the way in which the UUP and the SDLP regarded the timing of the announcement of the Sectary of State’s meetings with Mr Adams as calculated to undermine that. It is therefore, all the more important to try and pull the unionists back on board; but without fuelling SDLP suspicions that we are working to a pro-Unionist agenda.”

**CENT/1/24/48A 1994 - 1995**

**Exploratory Dialogue – Loyalist**

File contains details of discussions on the shipbuilding industry in Northern Ireland as well as discussions with PUP and UDP. Discussions on 12 June 1995 mainly concern prisoner issues, whilst those on 6<sup>th</sup> February largely concerned economic development. Mr English from the UDP stated “We used to blame our economic troubles on twenty five years of violence, but this is no longer an excuse. Its over, behind us. We need to bring down walls, the walls between people.” The issue of prisoner release in exchange for arms decommissioning was raised on 25 January 1995, to which it was made clear that this would not be the case. “This was not a question of bartering, but of parallel progress in a number of fields, in recognition that none of the issues existed in a vacuum.”

**CENT/1/24/50 1995**

**Molyneaux Economic Council Concept**

File contains discussions around the proposal by James Molyneaux (UUP) to establish an economic council for Northern Ireland to encourage inward investment. The file discusses the potential overlap between this proposed council and the two established Parliamentary NI committees and an uncertainty about where this proposed economic council would fit in. The papers go on to question the political implications of Westminster establishing such a body, before “Sinn Fein are accepted into the political fold.”

- CENT/1/24/53**    **1994 – 1995**    **Ministers cases 1994 – Co-ordinated by Central Secretariat Vol 3**  
File contains request from Dr Mo Mowlam for the shadow Labour Party Northern Ireland team to be briefed on current developments.
- CENT/1/24/54**    **1995**    **Re-Integration of Ex Paramilitary Prisoners Policy Paper 1995**  
File discusses the Government's policy for the reintegration of Long term Paramilitary prisoners following their release. A paper discusses potential problems in paramilitary prisoners engaging with Government support in light of the Douglas Hurd policy. It establishes Prisoner re-integration as a separate policy.
- CENT/1/24/56**    **1995**    **CCRU – Families of the Disappeared**  
File discusses Sir John Wheeler's meeting with Seamus McKendry and Families of the disappeared on 7<sup>th</sup> September 1995. The families raised concerns that they may be used as political bargaining pieces in the exploratory dialogue talks. Speaking for the Prime Minister and the Government, Sir John Wheeler stated "there was no question of the Government being held to ransom in such a way....the thought that Sinn Fein/PIRA might gain political advantage from providing or withholding information on a matter of basic human decency was obscene."
- CENT/1/24/57**    **1995**    **Exchange of National Day Messages with the Republic of Ireland**  
File contains discussion around the exchange of messages on St Patrick's day between the Queen and President Robinson. The papers refer to Unionist sensitivities given ongoing political developments, "with even moderate Unionists are showing acute sensitivity" There is discussion as to the name of the Republic of Ireland and how it should be addressed in any message.

- CENT/1/24/60**    **1995**                      **Central Community Relations Unit (CCRU) Equality – Dialogue Loyalist Exploratory Dialogue (Part 2)**  
File contains details of a Sinn Fein request to discuss Irish medium education, as well as press releases on exploratory dialogue with a number of parties including the Progressive Unionist Party (PUP) and Ulster Democratic Party (UDP).    One of the papers includes a statement by Michael Ancram, NIO Minister, which acknowledges the first exploratory dialogue with Sinn Fein at which Government has been represented by a Minister.
- CENT/3/256A**    **1988-1989**                      **Political Development Group**  
The file contains various secret papers including: 31 Oct. 1988, a note on the Duisberg talks, the Friends of the Union, proposals for talks between the Northern Ireland parties, etc.; paper dated 21 June 1989 entitled IRA background study; a folder titled SDLP – IRA – A background study, containing a paper dated 8 June 1989 'Influencing the SDLP' with a particular focus on John Hume, and those considered to have an influence on Hume's thinking.
- CENT/3/257A**    **1995**                      **Miscellaneous Security Matters**  
File contain confidential and secret papers including: Memo dated 5 Jan. 1995 from the British Embassy, Dublin, about an article by Dr Garret Fitzgerald in The Irish Times on 31 December criticizing security tactics in Northern Ireland as endangering the peace process, and proposing a response to counter the inaccurate assertions and statements; 11 Jan 1995 note of the Security Coordinating Committee, '...both ceasefires were holding. PIRA continue to gather intelligence, to target, and to train...'; correspondence from the Prime Minister's Office about force levels in NI and exploratory dialogue with Sinn Fein, dated 12 March 1995; and a further letter from Roderic Lyne, the Prime Minister's Office, confirming the force levels announcement and expressing concerns about the political side effects, '...need to give advance notice to Molyneaux, Magennis and Kilfedder...and a briefing to the likes of Tom Bradby and Denis Murray.'



Department of Agriculture

<b>AG/80/74</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>Rural Housing</b> File contains papers relating to rural housing policy. It discusses the problems of sub-standard accommodation, and identifies the problem as mainly affecting rural dwellers.
<b>AG/80/76</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>Rural Cottage Holidays</b> File relates to the company Rural Cottage holidays ltd and includes details of disputes between established accommodation providers and those supported by rural cottage holidays ltd. Dr Ian Paisley MP for North Antrim

A Background note to a parliamentary question states “Dr Ian Paisley DUP MP for North Antrim has tabled this lengthy PQ on the Rural Cottage Holidays ltd. NITB believe the question may have been prompted by Mr Billy O’Neill of the Causeway Coast Hotel.... Dr Ian Paisley has also raised a further PQ (No 1011) in relation to possible preferential treatment for businesses in which NITB has taken shares.”

Department of Economic Development

- DED/3/762**      **1992 - 1995**      **Belfast / Dublin Economic Corridor**
- File contains proposals for the creation of an economic corridor on the Eastern seaboard of Ireland. Amongst the papers is the upgrade of the Belfast- Dublin railway line “which will reduce the current journey time by some 20 minutes to 1 hour 35 minutes.” The file identifies a number of areas for cross border co-operation including infrastructure projects.
- DED/3/775**      **1995**      **Tourism All-Ireland Approach**
- File contains details of co-operation between Northern Ireland Tourist Board and Bord Fáilte in marketing. Peter Robinson MP for East Belfast condemned the NITB for its intention to pursue an all-Ireland tourist strategy. He went on to state “Given the way in which NITB has in the past, pandered to the Government’s plans for an all-Ireland approach is evidenced by its new logo of a shamrock with a red leaf in the centre, there is some evidence that decisions are being made on a political rather than a commercial basis.
- DED/3/1049**      **1994 - 1995**      **White House Conference**
- File contains details from the White House Conference for Trade and Investment in Ireland, organised by President Clinton in May 1995. A number of panels are reported on including Information Technology, Manufacturing, tradeable services, tourism. Donald J Alexander of the Northern Ireland Bureau in Washington reported that the early attention paid to Gerry Adams did not last beyond his meeting with the Secretary of State. A note of the manufacturing breakout session of the conference discusses the advantages of Northern Ireland as a manufacturing location. “So good were the accounts of NI given by the panellists that Des O’Malley a (former?) TD in the ROI felt obliged to intervene to stress the ROI’s corporation tax rate and also the fact that he was the man who said “No” to DeLorean.” A later note from Will Haire on the issue of equality discusses the Department’s

“move away from the debates about the merits or otherwise of MacBride legislation.” He concludes by stating “Some MacBriders will continue their campaign, but as in McManus’ comments, they are having to move towards the consensus.”

**DED/3/1049      1994 - 1995      Co-operation with Republic of Ireland Cross Border Trade.**

File contains details of sensitivities surrounding economic development and competition between Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland. A speech by Jim Mongey of An Bord Tráchtála to the Limerick Chamber of Commerce and the Irish Peace Institute quotes Baroness Denton on the economic benefits of peace. “The Single Market unlocked the gate to trade with the Republic of Ireland; peace has sung it open.”

**DED/8/28      1989 - 1992      Liaison with Republic of Ireland (other than Intergovernmental Conference)**

Files contain details on plans for cross border cooperation on tourism, developing tourism for border regions and the planned upgrade of the Dublin-Belfast Rail link. The papers note the sensitivities surrounding cooperation with Northern Ireland Tourist Board (NITB) and Bord Fáilte as part of the Anglo Irish declaration, whilst also competing for the same markets. The papers discuss the potential for either a cross border ferry crossing or bridge in Carlingford Lough.

**DED/22/183      1991 – 1995      Women in Government**

The file discusses issues around employment of Women in the Northern Ireland Civil Service. It includes discussion on improving the numbers of women in specialist grades, the introduction of flexible and part time working and a move away from a culture of long hours to encourage those with responsibilities outside the office.

**DED/22/226      1991 – 1993      Border Checkpoints**

The file discusses issues relating to Army checkpoints and that at Cloughue, South Armagh in particular. Amongst the papers are concerns from Northern Ireland Tourist Board over the appearance of border checkpoints. Amongst the papers is a letter from Mr Doug Archard of the US Consulate expressing his frustrations at being held up at an Army checkpoint at Cloughue following a visit to the opening of the Slieve Gullion Courtyard project. A discussion with John Fee (SDLP Councillor for Newry & Mourne) in March 1991 stated “the SDLP genuinely wanted to see progress but were exasperated by the number and variety of unionist preconditions.” It concludes by stating the area feels there is more effort in security measures rather than economic development. “A need for greater attention to be focused on restoring normality to the area as a means of undermining the Provisionals’ influence.

**DED/22/231      1988 – 1993      Harland & Wolff Closure Costs**

The file discusses estimates of closure costs including redundancy costs in the scenario that the yard is closed down by HMG in 1989, and existing contracts completed, and no buyer is found for the company.

**DED/22/234      1993 - 1994      Peace Dividend**

The file discusses potential for economic growth and co-operation with the EU and US in the event of a ceasefire and sustained peace. It focuses on the speculation of job creation and the positive impact on tourism.



**Department of Education**

**ED/13/2/1145 1991 – 1995**

**Women's Issues (general)**

The file contains a number of papers relating to improving the education of women, and subsequently improving female representation in managerial and professional sectors. It includes a speech from Baroness Denton in May 1995 to female A-Level students in Armagh, organised by the Knights of St Columbanus. On the issue of improving female representation, Departments have been asked to work towards a goal of 33% of all Public Appointments to be filled by women by March 1994. Departments should put forward at least one female candidate in all shortlists, or provide an explanation why suitable women are not being put forward.

**ED/13/2/1201 1992 – 1995**

**Irish in the Education System /Review**

The file contains a number of papers relating to education in the medium of Irish. It includes interviews with Irish medium principals in Derry on their opinions on the structure of the sector. A recommendation that Meanscoil Feirste is supported by Government until such times as the enrolment numbers are met by the feeder Irish language primary schools. "We now have a chance to demonstrate that we are prepared to be supportive, by helping the secondary school through this difficult transitional period; and politically there is much more to gain than to lose by taking this risk."



Department of Environment

ENV/7/9/75

1995

**Stirrings in the East**

File contains details of Government spending on projects in the North East of the province. Mayor Coulter from Ballymena council had raised the issue of perceived underspending in the area on Government projects, in comparison to those councils West of the Bann. 27 January 1995 "The conspiracy theory behind this is that the Government either consciously or not, is discriminating against the north-east. The charitable explanation is that, instinctively, the official machine has become accustomed to delivering the available goodies to the more deprived areas, and has simply forgotten to check the state of play in the traditionally prosperous regions. The more red-blooded interpretation assumes that the same official machine knows very well what it is doing, and is simply in the hands of those who feel that the Protestant north-east deserves to experience a bit of retributive justice."

ENV/8/1/212

1986

**Intimidation of contractors/ staff**

File consists relates primarily to tenders for Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) contracts. One such company alleged intimidation of its staff on the Shankill Road, following the murder of a catholic worker. Consequently all other catholic workers for the company had refused to attend the site. The file deals with the NIHE decision to terminate the contract.



Department of Finance and Personnel

- DFP/19/98 1991 – 1998 Anglo-Irish Conference**  
File contains details of the Anglo-Irish conferences. It reflects on the work of the last few years remarks the IGC meetings are now routine affairs. PN Bell on taking on the role of Joint Secretary outlines a number of objectives for the conference, including working with the Irish side and demystifying the Secretariat and all of its works.
- DFP/19/155 1991 – 1994 Supply DOE – Privatisation of Northern Ireland Airports**  
File contains details surrounding the privatisation Northern Ireland Airports Ltd (NIAL) i.e. Belfast International. The majority of papers relate to the tender process, and consideration of the bids.
- DFP/3/3/18 1993 – 1995 Community Support for Protestant Areas**  
File contains reports on the issue of alienation in Northern Ireland. The research took the form of a number of interviews with both Catholic and Protestant respondents covering constitutional arrangements, social and economic investment and cross community work. Some of the issues raised include the perception of the RUC, the siege of Drumcree and the framework document.
- DFP/3/3/19 1993- 1995 Maryfield meetings**  
File contains a wide array of papers and issues discussed at the Maryfield Meetings. It covers issues such as legal and judicial issues, identity and flags, employment issues and security concerns. A confidential paper from December 1993 covers the issue of Army Harassment and the alleged attempted recruitment of informers.  
“It was felt that informers were being recruited in Derry for cash inducements from among the criminal elements. There were either people who had a peripheral involvement on the

terrorist scene or who were vulnerable characters told to keep their eyes open. It was widely believed that minor offences were being traded off for information and that people were being put in impossible situations. Mr Steele stressed that informing on terrorists was a perfectly respectable act, as were the attempts made to recruit informers.”



**Department of Health and Social Services**

**HSS/13/50/33A 1993 - 1995**

**Major Accident Planning**

File contains details of contingency plans in the event of a major accident. It includes a report on the management of trauma in Northern Ireland and the recommendation of moving towards a single regionally based ambulance service.

**HSS/13/46/75A 1989 - 1995**

**Cross Border Benefit Fraud – Improper claim in Eire**

File contains the Department's attempts to pursue prosecutions for individuals submitting benefit claims in both jurisdictions.



**Northern Ireland Office**

**NIO/12/776A      1987 – 1990      Catering Issues**

File contains details relating to catering in Northern Ireland Prisons during the period 1987 – 1990. Topics include the increasing numbers of vegetarian prisoners, introduction of healthy eating initiatives and balancing this with the prisons dietary scale. The file discusses a restriction on what foodstuffs (mainly meat) prisoners may be given in parcels. On the issue of vegan diets, the principal medical officer discusses the requests of a prisoner “as a constant demand for raw vegetables,” and that “man is not a ruminant.”

