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SUBMISSION TO PRIOR

1981-6-OCT

THE PRESENT CONFLICT

There is the recurring problem of the present violent conflict. There does not appear to be any real effort to end it. Our emphasis is upon the word effort and is directed in the main at the Provisional I.R.A. and the British Government. Two factors are emerging. The Provisionals cannot win and attain their main objective. The British Government can never achieve a 100 per cent military defeat of the Provisional I.R.A. and their support groups. After thirteen years they are in a stalemate situation.

No political party has yet put forward a possible formula to attain a declared ceasefire period wherein reasonable and responsible negotiations can begin. The Progressive Unionist Party believes that the following four-point plan should be accepted by all parties to the Conflict, namely all Paramilitary movements:-

1. There should be a declared ceasefire of all Paramilitary organisations.
2. Troops should be withdrawn to barracks.
3. The R.U.C. should be accepted as a police service for all people in all areas.
4. Subject to completion of points 1 - 3 the British Government should commence an all party conference of political parties established before 6th October, 1981.

All four points being subjected to an overall time scale.