

Alliance call on security UNIONISTS MAINTAIN TALKS

West clears air on Ulster finance

Mr Harry West, Unionist Party leader, yesterday described as "menacing" a report that a White Paper was to be published outlining Ulster's financial position within the United Kingdom.

He said he was alarmed as he understood that the Minister of State for Northern Ireland, Mr Stanley Ome, was discussing the Paper and other matters with all shades of political opinion in Dublin. On what basis a Minister of the Crown could discuss the internal affairs of the United Kingdom with a foreign and hostile government was beyond his apprehension, he said.

"Ulster's financial position and its relationship with Westminster has been a subject of controversy for far too long now," he said.

"I detect in the Secretary of State's speech during the Westminster debate on Monday a note of threat if we did not accept the situation that Westminster, by virtue of its large subsidy to Northern Ireland should have a major part in the way of future institutions."

"I should like to deal with the threat or intimidation or brow-beating that is taking place. In the United Kingdom as a whole all regions need each other and we all have a part to play."

"In spite of the recent disagreements North Sea oil should be at the disposal of the whole of the United Kingdom. England depends very much on Wales to supply water for the industrial sector."

"In Northern Ireland we occupy a strategic place, but that is not our only value to the whole of the United Kingdom."

"Continued in Page 2, Col. 8."

Bad week for Dublin
This has not been one of the better weeks for Dublin, said a Unionist spokesman yesterday.

"First they prove they are still Church dominated by rejecting the Contraception Bill, with the help of Mr. Congrave," he said. "Then they undermine again their own I.R.A. with the release of 'Dutch Doherty'."

At Palace
The chairman of Armagh District Council, Mr. John O'Brien, and his wife were among the guests at a garden party given by the Queen at Buckingham Palace.

Charles
Prince Charles arrived aboard the frigate Jupiter at Rosyth dockyard yesterday where several vessels will be open to the public this weekend.

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The Official Unionist Party is to consider dropping its "no conference before an election" stance and to attend the security "talk shop" which the Alliance Party is backing.

A source close to the Westminster Government said last night that it would

News Letter reporter

give serious consideration to the idea.

And the Faulkner Unionists are also believed to be "very interested" in any move which could bring peace to the Province.

Next Tuesday Vanguard Unionists will consider their stand. Alliance Party leader Mr Oliver Napier wrote all party leaders yesterday urging the get-together on security.

He wants them to make a united

request to the Secretary of State to hold a conference.

He said that whatever constitutional framework was hammered out at the elected convention, "in the coming months we are all faced with the problem of terrorism and violence."

Mr Napier said later that every man, woman and child recognised that ending the continuing violence was an "immediate problem" matter of life and death.

All parties have made their own proposals, in isolation, for ending the shooting and bombing. Inevitably there have been conflicts of view.

"If we are really serious about ending violence, then we should be prepared to drop our differences for the sake of Northern Ireland, and to discuss proposals with each other, and with the British Government," said Mr Napier.

No security policy introduced by Westminster had a chance unless it was backed by all major parties in the Province, he said.

The clash on security still exists, said Mr Napier, but the illustrated yesterday with supporters of Mr Brian Faulkner, said that the Home Guard controversy was a continuation of a new police reserve.

Lord Brookeborough and Mr Leslie Morrell said that the Government should give careful consideration to an examination to the structure and role of the RUC Reserve and UDR to ensure greater local involvement.

Third level
The raising of a third level of police reserves should be considered with the present existing educational and physical standards reduced. It could take over responsibility for static guard and routine duties.

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DUBLIN WARNS TERROR PLOTTERS

The Eire Government warned last night delegates of the international conference of militant left-wing organisations due to start in Dublin on Monday.

In its first public statement on the conference it said: "The Government wishes it to be known that it strongly disapproves of the so-called anti-imperialist festival and that it will not facilitate the entry into Ireland of people who will attend it."

Last night's statement by the Eire Justice Minister, Mr. Patrick Cosgrave, followed a meeting of the 15-man coalition cabinet where the political implications of the conference were discussed.

Certain delegates are likely to be refused visas.

Conference venue remains secret - Page 3

'Steam queen' hitches a ride



Steam enthusiast 19-year-old Jeanette Owen of Jordanstown pictured at the Steam Traction Engine Rally at Shane's Castle, Antrim, yesterday. The rally, organised by the Ulster Traction Engine Club in association with Ballymena Lions Club, continues today.

A Turkish fleet of assault landing craft and warships sailed yesterday in the direction of Cyprus as pressure continued in Ankara for intervention.

United States Secretary of State Joseph Sisco held urgent talks in Athens with Greek leaders and was due in Ankara for talks there to head off a possible Turkish invasion of Cyprus.

The gravity of the situation was summed up by Turkish Defence Minister Hasan Kiliç who said: "Everything depends on the information Mr. Sisco brings from Athens."

As news reached Cyprus of the Turkish fleet sailing, people rushed into the street of Nicosia shouting: "The Turks are coming, the Turks are coming."

Drop off
A 12-foot section of wing fell off a Pan American Jumbo jet over Sydney yesterday and smashed into houses in two suburbs. The plane landed safely at Sydney and there were no reports of casualties.

Church fire
A fire last night damaged underground corridors surrounding St. Martin's in the Fields, Trafalgar Square, one of London's most famous churches.

In Ankara, Turkish information Minister Orhan Birgit confirmed the fleet had sailed, but did not reveal the destination or purpose of the move.

Turkey has vowed to safeguard the 110,000 Turkish Cypriot minority on the island.

In Nicosia, Mr. Dimis Demetriou, named as foreign minister after the coup, spoke of the new government's friendship for Turks and said he was willing to go to Ankara for talks.

Greece has agreed in principle to send representatives to London to discuss the situation, the Foreign Office said last night.

Earlier Mr. Roy Hattersley, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, told MPs that the Greek officers of the National Guard, who led the coup, were to be withdrawn within a few days.

USA move in Cyprus crisis

A relative of an Ulster couple marooned in Cyprus since the takeover by former EOKA fighter, Nicos Sampson, yesterday spoke of her fear for their safety.

Mrs. Annabel Hamilton of Ainsworth Pass, Belfast, is awaiting news of her cousin, George McKinnel, and his wife Irene, of Ballysloan Road, Belfast.

"I just don't know what to think. They are expected back in London today but the travel agent doesn't hold out much hope of them arriving," she said.

The McKinnels' left Aldergrove on July 6 and no word has been heard from them since.

"They have not even managed to get a postcard to me. It's a very worrying and I am praying nothing serious has happened to them," she said.

"You think things are bad here, but when you hear of a takeover like what has happened in Cyprus you always think of the worst."

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CONCERN FOR MAROONED COUPLES

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NEXT WEEK

Worker's dream comes true

The war a whole community is fighting

Inside

- Congress lawyers urge impeachment - Page 2
- New barriers boost business in Belfast - Page 3
- Wages the big threat to inflation - Page 7

Women escape bottled gas blast

An 85-year-old Co. Armagh woman and her daughter had a miraculous escape when their cottage was torn apart by an explosion yesterday.

Police say that the blast at Cornacorne, between Tandragee and Portadown, was caused by a build-up of bottled gas.

The two women were alone in the slated cottage when it was wrecked by the explosion.

The daughter, 50 year old Mrs. Mary Thompson, was blown out on to the road by the force, which demolished the kitchen wall, and lifted off the roof.

Part of the roof over the bedroom where Mrs. Mary Newell lay asleep - dropped down again. It sagged, but although the people collapsed on top of the bed, the rafters held.

Neighbours rescued Mrs. Newell as she broke out of the back of the shattered cottage. It was extinguished by Portadown Fire Brigade.

Mrs. Newell is in hospital suffering from shock, and her daughter is "seriously ill" with burns and multiple injuries.

A police source said: "Both women had a miraculous escape."

TWO HURT BY CAR BOMB

Two people were slightly injured when a car bomb exploded in the main street of the Co. Tyrone village of Carrickmore last night.

The bomb - an explosive-packed basket in a car seat - exploded without warning outside the Co. Tyrone village of Carrickmore last night.

A police spokesman said that the people injured were in the vicinity of the bar which was severely damaged. Adjoining houses were also damaged.

A resident said: "We knew nothing about the bomb until the explosion occurred."

After the explosion, security forces were heavily stoned, and were forced to leave the area of the blast. One soldier was slightly injured.

The car used by the terrorists to carry the bomb was earlier stolen in Belfast.

This was the first car bomb exploded in the village which is largely Roman Catholic.

Floods
About 70,000 people have been left homeless and a further 700,000 affected by floods in Assam and north-eastern India, according to reports reaching New Delhi yesterday.

Rail blast
A huge explosion ripped through a railway yard yesterday, injuring at least 110 people and forcing thousands to evacuate their homes and sparking dozens of fires.

BOLENS GARDEN TRACTORS

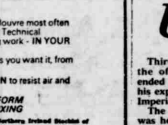
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