

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 44

Expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to the conflict in the northeast of the island of Ireland.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 16, 1995

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. MANTON, Mr. KING, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. MEEHAN, and Mr. BLUTE) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to the conflict in the northeast of the island of Ireland.

Whereas the British Government has maintained military forces in the northeast of the island of Ireland since August 1969;

Whereas in March 1995, as many as 18,000 British troops were stationed in the northeast of the island of Ireland;

Whereas the British Government, in the Framework Document of February 22, 1995, declared that it has “no selfish strategic or economic interest in Northern Ireland”;

Whereas the Irish Republican Army has declared and faithfully maintained a ceasefire since August 31, 1994, which was followed by a similar ceasefire declaration and obser-

vation by the Combined Loyalist Military Command on October 13, 1994; and

Whereas the British Government has stated an apparent unwillingness to engage in negotiations with the Sinn Fein political party until the Irish Republican Army decommissions its armaments: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that—

3 (1) the demilitarization of the conflict in the
4 northeast of the island of Ireland will further the
5 goals of peace and reconciliation in Ireland;

6 (2) in accordance with the principle of self-de-
7 termination, the British Government should an-
8 nounce, as soon as possible, its intention to vacate
9 and withdraw, in appropriate phases, all British
10 military forces from the northeast of the island of
11 Ireland not later than December 31, 1999;

12 (3) the Irish Republican Army and the organi-
13 zations which comprise the Combined Loyalist Mili-
14 tary Command should, at the same time, in phases
15 to be negotiated and agreed upon by all groups in
16 the peace process, decommission their weapons in
17 amounts proportionate to the phased withdrawal of
18 British troops from the northeast of the island of
19 Ireland;

1 (4) in recognition of the stability and length of
2 the existing cessation of hostilities by the Irish Re-
3 publican Army and the Combined Loyalist Military
4 Command, the demilitarization process should be
5 initiated by the prompt withdrawal of a substantial
6 number of British military forces from the northeast
7 of the island of Ireland; and

8 (5) the new North/South body proposed in the
9 Framework Document of February 22, 1995, should
10 include as part of its functions, oversight of compli-
11 ance by all parties with such demilitarization
12 process.

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