

REPUBLICAN PRESS CENTRE BELFAST

We have been asked to issue the following supplied statement to our office from Republican Prisoners on Hunger Strike in Long Kesh : 11.12.80.

" Yesterday afternoon an Official from the N.I. Office visited each hunger-striker individually.

He left a copy of the statement made by Humphry Atkins in the House of Commons in each cell.

He refused to discuss or accept proposals put to him by Brendan Hughes.- The Official told Brendan to read Atkins' statement. The Official also stated that the hunger-strike should end. We have no intention, despite our deteriorating condition, of abandoning our hunger-strike.

While accepting that the N.I. Office have broken the ice, we feel our position needs clarifying to prevent any misunderstanding by our supporters on the outside.

To resolve the hunger-strike without - a death the following needs to occur:- The N.I. Office have got to approach the situation realistically and have to deal with the continuation of the hunger-strike and the blanket protest through our representatives here.

Nothing significantly has changed and the public should be made aware of this."

Signed,

Leo Green ,  
Brendan Hughes ,

Tom McFeeley ,

Ray McCartney ,

John Nixon ,

Sean McKenna ,

Tommy McKearney ,