



VOTE NO TO LISBON



32 County Sovereignty Movement

Six Point Objection

- 1. British Parliamentary and European Parliamentary activity in Ireland is not democratically accountable to the Irish people.**
- 2. The Lisbon Referendum is being put to a section of the Irish people and is not a valid expression of Irish self determination. Ireland is a 32 County Sovereign Nation whose sovereignty is violated by a foreign power.**
- 3. The rights supposedly 'defended' by Lisbon excludes the Irish people's right to self determination.**
- 4. Lisbon seeks a common Foreign and Defence policy amongst EU members which will negate the British Governments spurious stance of '*having no selfish, strategic or economic reasons*' to remain in Ireland.**
- 5. Common EU positions in Defence, Economics and Taxation will inevitably mean control by the larger Military and Economic Members of the EU. Neutrality will be made redundant.**
- 6. The terms of the Lisbon Treaty have already been democratically rejected.**

Vote No To Lisbon

Leaked Memo. Who's Making A Laughing Stock Of Us?

"Irish have picked May 29 for voting but will delay an announcement to keep the no camp guessing (please protect). DFA's EU director gives us referendum timetable and details of the bill, to be published next week. Aim is to focus the campaign on overall benefits of EU rather than the treaty itself. Concern about the potential impact of a WTO deal and of Sarkozy.

"The draft, largely incomprehensible to the lay reader, had been agreed following lengthy consultation with government lawyers and with the political parties.

"The bill would enter parliament in the second week of April and it would probably take two weeks to go through and be passed around 22 April. The minister for the environment would thus be entitled to set an order naming the date for the referendum between 30 to 90 days of the order being made. Technically, the Taoiseach (Bertie Ahern) and (Dermot) Ahern saw a slight advantage in keeping the no campaign guessing. 29 May was the assumed date in working plans.

"Mulhall said a date in October would have been easier from a procedural point of view. But the risk of unhelpful developments during the French presidency - particularly related to EU defence - were just too great. Sarkozy was completely unpredictable. The only other unhelpful event the Irish thought might impact on the May vote would be a WTO deal based on agricultural concessions that could lead the powerful farming association to withdraw its support.

"I ran through the UK parliamentary ratification timetable and noted that the referendum vote (in the House of Commons) on 5 March would be a particularly sensitive moment. Mulhall remarked that the media had been relatively quiet on the ratification process so far. We would need to remain in close touch given the media crossover.

"Mulhall said other partners - including the Commission - were playing a helpful, low-profile role. Vice-president Margot Wallström, who had been in Dublin yesterday and today, had told Dermot Ahern that the Commission was willing to tone down or delay messages that might be unhelpful.

"??? ??? ???... (unclear text or deletion) so Irish thought treaty was taken for granted..... David Miliband (Foreign Secretary) not going

"Most people would not have time to study the text and would go with the politicians they trusted."