



## The Burning Bush—Online article archive

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### Roman Catholic Press Office comment on Congratulations from the Office of First Minister



Maynooth College

**The following statement was issued to a media outlet. It gives some information on a matter hardly reported in the Northern Ireland press.**

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On the day of the announcement, 17 October 2007, as you can appreciate, it was a very busy day and there were many callers, media and well wishers in touch with the Archbishops office to convey their congratulations. During the press conference in Armagh that afternoon, Archbishop Brady read his statement to the media

present (see copy in the press release section of [www.catholiccommunications.ie](http://www.catholiccommunications.ie)) expressing his gratitude to the *Office* of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister (my emphasis). At this stage contact had been made at a senior official level in OFMDFM. We were also aware that a statement would be made by Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness. As reported by the *Irish News* the following day, during the question and answer session at the press conference:

'In a diplomatic answer, Dr Brady said he was not sure to what extent First Minister Ian Paisley, the DUP leader and Free Presbyterian Church moderator, had been involved in the congratulations.' (*Irish News* 18 November 2007)

I hope this clarifies the matter for you,  
Kind regards

Director  
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