NORTHERN IRELAND (2)

II. Who's Who in Northern Ireland

1. The Unionists
2. The Republicans
3. Non-sectarians and outsiders
4. Assembly composition

III. Latest developments

1. The 1998 Good Friday Agreement
2. This year's disputes

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II. Who's Who

You are already familiar with the three main[1] terms: **Republican** as opposed to **Unionist** and **Loyalist**.
Now I'd like to introduce the parties and paramilitary groups that you need to be able to identify. I will also mention the names of the important figures[2] of the Northern Irish conflict and peace process. In each subsection, they are listed according to relevance.

1. On the Unionist side

UUP – The Ulster Unionist Party
Led by DAVID TRIMBLE, it is the largest party of all and holds about one quarter of the seats. It does have close links with the ORANGISTS –see below- it does oppose a united Ireland, yet it supports the peace process and signed the Good Friday Agreement, though it tried to exclude SINN FEIN from the talks. Whenever a conflict within the current power sharing government arises, it often is because of a UUP reaction against SINN FEIN, as is the case with the September 2002 ultimatum. See Section III.
DAVID TRIMBLE was elected **FIRST MINISTER** in 1998, and again in 2001.

DUP – The Democratic Unionist Party
Led by the Reverend **IAN PAISLEY**, this party is a strong opponent to the Good Friday Agreement[3] and to any lessening of the British involvement in Northern Ireland. They hold 22 seats – just over 18 % of the vote.

RUC – The Royal Ulster Constabulary[4]
While the British army took over during the 1970s, the RUC was then given its power and role back. Its special unit, the E4A, is said to be responsible for several "shoot-to-kill" incidents during the 1980s.

ORANGE ORDER or the **ORANGISTS**
The largest and toughest loyalist group –not a party. Famous for the Orangist March they organize every summer to celebrate the British presence in Northern Ireland. This march traditionally goes through Catholic neighbourhoods, *thus* triggering violence.

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[1] Notez bien qu'en anglais on inverse l'ordre des adjectifs suivants :
les trois premières réponses => the first three answers
les dix dernières années => the last ten years
Cela ne vaut pas pour « main » bien sûr.

[2] a figure : plusieurs sens mais jamais celui de figure=visage
- une figure = personnage important
- un chiffre
- une silhouette

[3] You may use the term : a hardliner

[4] En Grande Bretagne, un policier = a constable
Aux Etats-Unis = a policeman, an officer, a cop (familiar)

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