## SECRET & PERSONAL

cc PS/8 ofs (LTB) PS/Michael Ancram (LTB) PS/PVS (LTB) Mr Legge Mr Thomas Mr Bell Mr Steele Mr Watkins Mr Williams Mr Brooker Maniell \*

Mr Maccabe



02320700

Purplies to the IRA, the Prices Merister appreciate that a resumeter of \* We discussed. You will cover there points in the draft letter you are providing.

## SECRET AND PERSONAL



## 10 DOWNING STREET LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

31 December 1993

JOINT DECLARATION: FOLLOW-UP ACTION

The Prime Minister was grateful for your letter of 29 December and the associated notes.

The Prime Minister wonders whether the Government could persuade the church leaders in Ireland to issue a Joint Declaration themselves in support of the two Governments' Declaration. The Prime Minister would be quite keen to pursue this, if your Secretary of State considered it feasible and worthwhile.

Turning to the IRA, the Prime Minister appreciates that a resumption of the talks process will itself increase pressure on the IRA, but he would be grateful to know what other measures might be taken to this end.

I am copying this letter to John Sawers (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and Melanie Leech (Cabinet Office).

WILLIAM CHAPMAN

J Stephens Esq Northern Ireland Office