## CONFIDENTIAL

RFrom: PS/Michael Ancram

19 November 1993

PS/Michael Ancram (DENI, B&L) - B CC

PS/PUS (B&L) - B PS/Mr Fell - B

Mr Thomas - B

Mr Bell - B

Mr Watkins - B

Mr Williams - B

Mr Brooker - B

Mr Maccabe - B

Mr Cooke - B

Mr Quinn -

PS/Secretary of State (B&L) - B

IRISH PRESS ARTICLE ON "SECRET PLAN" - 19 NOVEMBER 1993

Michael Ancram has seen the Emily O'Reilly article in the Irish Press detailing a paper purporting to be an "Irish draft joint working paper". The Minister's initial view is that the NIO reaction (if any) should be on the lines that the document represents a useful contribution to the process, but at this stage it should be made very clear that the document emanates entirely from the Irish side and has not been considered or agreed by HMG. (I understand that the DFA line to enquirers confirms this to be the case.) The selties communent could be entrusted with it.

Michael Ancram has further indicated that he would find it useful to have a briefing document on the article prior to the political development meeting which has been arranged for 1630 hrs on Monday 22 November in order to focus a short discussion on the leaked document and its implications.

Signed

KEITH JAGELMAN PS/Michael Ancram