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17 JUN 1996

From: PS/Secretary of State (B)
17 June 1996

cc PS/Secretary of State (B&L) - B
PS/Sir John Wheeler (B&L) - B
PS/Michael Ancram (B&L) - B
PS/PUS (B&L) - B
PS/Sir David Fell - B
Mr Legge - B
Mr Thomas - B
Mr Bell - B
Mr Brooke - B
Mr Leach - B
Mr Steele - B
Mr Watkins - B
Mr Wood (B&L) - B
Mr Hill - B
Mr Beeton - B
Mrs Brown - B
Mr Cornick - B
Mr Maccabe - B
Mr Stephens - B
Ms Checksfield - B
Miss Harrison - B
Mr N Carson - B
Mr D Lavery - B
Mr Lamont, RID - B
HMA Dublin - B
Mr Cran - B
Mr Elletson - B
Lady Olga Maitland - B
Mr Campbell-Bannerman - B

Ans
Mrs McNulty

NOTE OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN SECRETARY OF STATE AND
SENATOR GEORGE MITCHELL ON SUNDAY 16 JUNE 1996

The notes below are based on the Secretary of State's notes of the conversation.

The Secretary of State spoke to Senator Mitchell on the telephone at 0940 hours on Sunday. Senator Mitchell was depressed by the Manchester bombing and asked the Secretary of State if he thought the IRA would announce a ceasefire "tomorrow".

The Secretary of State said it was a possibility we had thought of in advance. HMG had always said it would deal with such an event in light of all circumstances. But the reality was HMG would have to say get lost. However we could intellectualise if the reality was that it was more than could be asked: we would be seen as very naive to still let them in.

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In response to the Secretary of State's question as to what he thought, Mitchell agreed. He said, however, that it was important not to respond by implying they would be kept out for good. The Secretary of State warmly agreed - and said that he thought Monday would be taken up with hours of 'How awful this is'. The Secretary of State took a different view: this was nothing new in principle.

Senator Mitchell agreed to meet at 0930. Mitchell sounded low. Mitchell and his team were meeting Sunday afternoon.

(SIGNED)

ROBERT CRAWFORD

SECRETARY OF STATE'S MEETINGS WITH THE DUP: 17 JUNE 1996

As he was leaving the Castle Buildings shortly before lunchtime today, the Secretary of State was stopped in the corridor by David Trimble and two DUP members for a meeting. As Trimble had to go back into the Castle Buildings, Mao Maginnis came by himself for a short discussion with the Secretary of State. It was also agreed that Trimble, Maginnis and Hume would call on the Secretary of State on Monday morning.

The Secretary of State said that the Manchester bombing had significantly changed the DUP's stance. It was highly relevant that the DUP had changed its stance on the issue. In such circumstances, if there were to be a meeting, the talks would break down. There had been a lot of support for the DUP's line in relation to the bombing. Despite their rejection of the DUP's line, if they

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