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MITCHELL AIDE ALLEGATIONS

UUP position:-

We have **NO PROOF** that the rumours, which have been rife for about a month, are true.

Assurances were given to the contrary by both Senator and his staff.

Ulster Unionists leaders were content to leave the allegations to be dealt with by the security services who were aware of them.

There are no matters which can be deemed "Security sensitive" discussed during the Talks.

The fairly low category "Confidential" applies to the Talks and everyone is already aware that John Hume, a Talks' delegate, is in regular contact with Gerry Adams.

Since Senator Mitchell gave his personal guarantee that neither he nor his staff had had any liaison with any member of Sinn Fein/IRA, he is the only one who can be professionally embarrassed if rumours now prove to be true.

Other points

This is a dangerous area.....members should seriously consider their legal position carefully before commenting.

If the rumour is substantiated, the Party Leader will deal with the implications or nominate a senior officer to do so.

PLEASE.....NO LIBEL CASES! The party can't afford them....can you?

PLEASE ADVISE COLLEAGUES ACCORDINGLY.