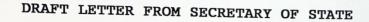
## CONFIDENTIAL



Dr I R K Paisley MP MEP Democratic Unionist Party Block B Castle Buildings Stormont

pants recognise the need to obtain widespress NU July 1996

Thank you for your letter of 22 July, to which you requested a quick response.

As paragraph 3 of the "Opening Scenario" paper made clear, it comprised a set of proposals from the two Governments.

It is clear that events have moved on and that the proposals do not command general acceptance.

Accordingly, although aspects of the paper - for example, the suggested terms of reference for the proposed sub-committee on decommissioning at Annex B - will inform the British Government's approach when we reach the substantive discussion on this issue, we regard the paper as having been effectively overtaken.