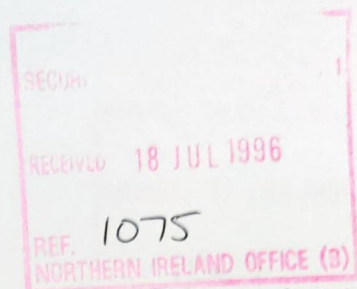


5/10/0

From: PS/Sir John Wheeler  
17 July 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 Steele - B  
Mr Thomas (B&L) - B  
Mr Watkins - B  
Mr Bell - B  
Mr Leach (B&L) - B  
Mr Perry - B  
✓ Mr Hill (B&L) - B  
Mr Lavery - B  
Mr Stephens - B  
Mr Maccabe - B  
Mr Myles - B

C- (D)

Mr Legge - B

**RELAYING INFORMATION ON PUNISHMENT BEATINGS TO SENATOR MITCHELL**

The Minister was grateful for your submission of 16 July which recommended, in view of the deterioration of the security situation, that it would be inappropriate at the moment to provide information on punishment beatings to the Independent Chairmen. The Minister has also noted Michael Ancram's comments and Richard Lemon's note of the same date.

The Minister has carefully considered your advice and is content with your suggested course of action ie further advice will be forwarded when the Talks resume, reflecting the current status on both the security and political situations.

(SIGNED)

**P S WILKINSON**  
Private Secretary