PAIGCAN

FROM: A J ADAMS

REL DIVISION 6 JUNE 1996 210-6572

> Mr Thomas CC - B Mr Bell Mr Watkins R Mr Leach - B Mr Beeton Mr Maccabe - B Mr Perry - B Mr Stephens - B Mr White - B Mr Lamont, RID - B HMA Dublin - B

MS CHECKSFIELD - B

HANDLING OF PRISON ISSUES

I have been following with interest the exchanges on the handling of prison issues at IGC meetings.

2. Shouldn't we be encouraging, both on its own merit and as a means of deepening East-West relationships, more direct contact, where appropriate, between Dublin and London-based Departments? This is not a matter of side-lining the Maryfield channel but of using the most appropriate avenues of communication for particular bits of business. If the problem with that is ensuring that appropriate NIO weight is given to the exchanges, then REL will play its part, given our role in rule of law issues and the security dimension to the Political Directorate's tasks.

(Signed)

A J ADAMS
RIGHTS AND EUROPEAN DIVISION
6 JUNE 1996