

POLITICAL AFFAIR
DIVISION
24 SEP 1996
N.I.O. BELFAST

B/8

FROM: D A LAVERY
CENT SEC
24 SEPTEMBER 1996

DESK IMMEDIATE

cc PS/Secretary of State (B&L)
PS/PUS (B&L)
PS/Sir David Fell (o/r)
Mr Thomas (o/r)
Mr Leach (B&L)
Mr Watkins
Mr Bell
Mr Hill (B&L)
Mr Stephens (B&L)
Mr Maccabe
Mr Whysall
Mr Jagelman

File talks.

M. G. Kerrill

PS/Michael Ancram (B&L)

CONFIDENTIALITY

C25/19

1. This is to offer a possible alternative draft of paragraph 4 of the 'Points of Agreement' circulated by the Office of the Independent Chairmen for this afternoon's plenary session.
2. There was a measure of agreement that paragraph 4 was too tightly drawn and could have the effect of inhibiting the ability of the participants to make public statements of their own policy and positions in relation to the negotiations.
3. The Chairmen invited the participants to submit alternative drafts of paragraph 4 by close-of-play today.
4. We may wish to offer the Chairmen something along the lines of the attached draft.

[Signed: DAL]

D A LAVERY

JC/TALKS/2455

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Suggested alternative draft paragraph 4 of 'Points of Agreement' on confidentiality proposed by British Government.

4. Documents produced by participants in the course of the negotiations will be subject to the rule of confidentiality except that it will be permissible for any participant to make use in public of any statement of its policy, or to respond in public to any enquiry relating to its position, on any matter relating to the negotiations. Provided that in doing so the policy or position of any other participant would not be made public.

Mr Macdonald (S&L)
Mr Lavery
Mr Perry
Mr Whysall (S&L)
Ms Mapstone

TALKS: SPEAKING NOTE ON OPENING PLenary AGENDA

As discussed at this morning's briefing meeting I attach a revised draft of the remarks which the British delegation might make in support of the 30 July proposed agenda, if plenary does indeed move on to a consideration of this issue.

(Signed)

E J R HILL
Political Development Team
CE 23317

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