

090/01/E



PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AT

23 January 1997

Dear Murdo,

NBPM
L'G
pm 24/1.

NORTHERN IRELAND GRAND COMMITTEE

As you know, the meeting with the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland which was scheduled to take place this morning had to be cancelled because of the length of Cabinet. However, the Lord President informed me that, in the margins of Cabinet, he and the Chief Whip spoke to Sir Patrick Mayhew and agreed that Sir Patrick should proceed with his consultation on the lines set out in his minute to the Lord President of 20 December 1996. Consequently, no further meeting is needed for the time being.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Prime Minister, the Lord Privy Seal, Home Secretary, Secretaries of State for Scotland and Wales; Tim Wood MP, and to Bill Jeffrey and Alan Sandall in the Cabinet Office.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'P. Cohen'.

PAUL COHEN
Principal Private Secretary

Murdo Maclean Esq
PS/Chief Whip
12 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1