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SUBJECT
MASTER

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25 September 1996

THE PRIME MINISTER
PERSONAL - CONFIDENTIAL

PRIME MINISTER
17th Sep Brian,
HUME/ADAMS INITIATIVE

You kindly gave me an interesting PIRA position paper the other day. I have had this looked into.

The paper is indeed authentic and was probably written in the immediate aftermath of the PIRA August 1994 ceasefire. It is an attempt by the Provisional leadership to set out formally the objectives of the so-called unarmed struggle and to provide an explanation of the strategy behind the ceasefire for the rank and file.

Those concerned have been aware of the existence of this paper for some time. Indeed, a synopsis of it was published in the Sinn Fein newspaper in August 1994.

There are no real surprises in the paper, but it has been useful to have the objectives of the Provisionals set out in this way, not least to give us a better perception of how they are likely to be assessing their own progress.

Yours Ever,
John

The Rt. Hon. Dr. Brian Mawhinney, M.P.

AS