SINN FEIN

10 February 1997

Mr John Major MR Commission of 10 Downing Street.
London.

Mr Major, a chara,

As you will know from previous correspondence and in keeping with normal democratic practice, it is my view that Sinn Féin should be involved now in the talks process. Your government's policy prevents this and denies our electorate their rights.

I know also that you are fighting an election campaign and that it appears that this is taking priority over the question of peace in my nountry.

It is my view that peace making should not wait until after the elections.

I am prepared therefore, as I have told you before, and, in keeping with Sinn Fein's commitment to dialogue and to democratio means to resolving conflict, to ask some of my colleagues to engage in discussions with your officials in an effort to find a way to restore a proper peace process.

These discussions would be without prejudice to the rights of our electorate and because of our party's commitment to a peace settlement.

I would be pleased therefore if you would reconsider your position and authorism your officials to enter into this dialogue.

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Gerry Adams.

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