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**FROM: QUENTIN THOMAS**  
**POLITICAL DIRECTOR (L)**  
**16 MAY 1997**

*cc* PB  
Press

cc: PS/Mr Murphy  
PS/PUS (L&B)  
PS/Sir D Fell  
Mr Steele  
Mr Ray  
Mr Stephens  
Mr Wood  
Mr Beeton  
Mr Holmes, No 10  
Mr Budd, Cabinet Office

*6:4*  
*John 16/5*

PS/SECRETARY OF STATE (L&B)

**FURTHER CONTACT WITH SINN FEIN**

The message which Sinn Fein passed to us, through Mr Beeton, yesterday included the assertion that McGuinness had been told that the British Embassy in Dublin had told some people that I had been in touch with Sinn Fein.

2. This is just to record that I spoke to Mr Clarke at HM Embassy about this. He categorically denied this for the good and sufficient reasons that they were unaware that contact had taken place.

Signed

**QUENTIN THOMAS**  
**11 MILLBANK**  
**Ext 6447**

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