

01-SEP-1997 18:22 FROM INTER GOVERNMENT TO PRIVATE OFFICE P.02/02

IRISH LANGUAGE① cc by fax to her
Lindsay, NIO

Top JEH

PB/R
AC

A.

File
16/9.Sent to me by Paddy Teahan
on 1/9. I have since sent him ourBoth Governments are fully committed to the implementation of the Mitchell
Report in all its aspects. ② Back me language file 2/9.

The two Governments see the resolution of the decommissioning issue as an indispensable part of the process of negotiation, alongside other confidence-building measures for all sides. They recognise that decommissioning should not become a blockage in the talks. The two Governments are determined to achieve through all-party negotiations on a comprehensive and substantive agenda the complete and permanent decommissioning of all illegally-held paramilitary weapons and look to all parties, in good faith, to negotiate on that basis.

B.

The two Governments reaffirm that the principle of consent, as defined in the Downing Street Declaration, will be a guiding principle for them in the negotiations.