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**10 DOWNING STREET**  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Principal Private Secretary

9 September 1997

*See Aired,*

**NORTHERN IRELAND: CONSENT AND DECOMMISSIONING**

The Taoiseach has now considered the revised language which emerged from the Joint Liaison Group yesterday. As predicted, he wants to delete the definition of the consent principle, but has otherwise accepted the changes proposed. I now attach the latest text, received from Paddy Teahon this evening. I assume this is what we should now deploy with Trimble tomorrow.

I am copying this to John Grant (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), Jan Polley (Cabinet Office), Sir John Kerr (Washington) and Veronica Sutherland (Dublin).

*Yours ever*

*John*

**JOHN HOLMES**

Richard Lemon, Esq.,  
Northern Ireland Office.

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