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ANNEX E

INTEGRATED HANDLING PLAN FOR SECRETARY OF STATE'S DECISION ON THE CEASEFIRE, SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT ON DECOMMISSIONING COMMISSION AND MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES

Report of the Committee monitoring the ceasefire to go to the Secretary of State

Friday 22

Sofs to review situation with Chief Constable/GOC at SPM (09:00 - 10.30am, Belfast). [Possible statement and photocall following SPM] Tuesday 26

Doorsteps in Belfast and Londonderry

Tuesday 26

Tuesday 26

SofS to write to Minister of Justice consulting on coming into force of section 7 of Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 AM Tuesday 26

SofS to consult Irish Government - meeting with Ray Burke (c 6pm, Belfast)

SofS to sign Agreement establishing Decommissioning Commission with Mr Burke at photocall after meeting ("full powers" to be shown to Mr Burke before signature). [Possible media questions]. Tuesday 26

Issue of Joint Communiqué on meeting

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[meeting or phone call with Trimble (c 8pm)
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Tuesday 26]

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SofS BBC Breakfast News TV 'phone-in
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(trying to re-arrange for post ceasefire announcement)

AM Wednesday 27

SofS interview with Des McCarten of Belfast Telegraph

AM Wednesday 27

SofS to consult Prime Minister (9am)

Cabinet informed of decision

Talks Chairmen informed of decision

SofS announces decision (in Belfast?)

Thursday 28

Thursday 28

Thursday 28

Thursday 28

SofS issues invitation to Sinn Fein to nominate representatives to the talks (if decision positive) Thursday 28

SofS to sign Commencement Order bringing section 7 of Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 into force on 1 September (If Minister of Justice has replied to SofS consultation letter of 26 August) Friday 29

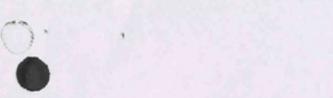
SofS to brief London based US correspondents Friday 29

Follow-up interviews, if required

Friday 29

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SofS interview for "Inside Politics", (Pre-recorded)
                                                      Saturday 30
Sky TV "Boulton on Sunday" (being approached,
pre-recorder SofS or Mr Murphy/Mr Ingram)
                                                     Sunday 31
                                28
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"Sunday Life" and "Sunday Times" (for national edition) being asked to take articles in name of SofS Sunday 31

