

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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cc Press

From: Phil Wheatley  
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7 August 1997

cc. Jack Straw  
George Howarth  
Richard Wilson  
Richard Tilt  
Tony Pearson  
Hugh Taylor  
Mike Granatt, CD  
Kevin Heal, PAG  
Catherine Byrne, TPU  
Audrey Nelson, CU  
Nigel Newcomen, Secretariat  
Linda Robinson, PAG  
Ed Owens  
Norman Warner  
Peter Leonard, Gov, Frankland

Joyce Quin

**TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF SEAN McNULTY TO NORTHERN IRELAND**

Issue To Be Decided

None. The purpose of this submission is to inform Ministers of the arrangements in place to transfer Sean McNulty on Thursday 14 August 1997.

Timing

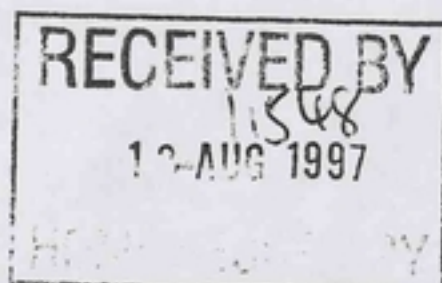
2. Immediate.

Background

3. Kevin Heal's submission of 31 July 1997 sought agreement, which has now been given, for the temporary transfer of McNulty to Northern Ireland, initially for a period not exceeding six months.

Transfer Arrangements

4. Arrangements have been made following consultation with the Northern Ireland Prison Service, Frankland Prison and Northumbria Police for McNulty to be transferred from Frankland to Newcastle Airport. The security arrangements for the escort are in line with the Manual on Security provisions for the movement of Category A prisoners and the escort will attract a full armed police presence. McNulty will then travel on flight 9C726 to Belfast City Harbour Airport with an escort of three prison officers. On arrival McNulty will be handed over to officers from the Northern Ireland Prison Service and transferred to Maghaberry Prison.



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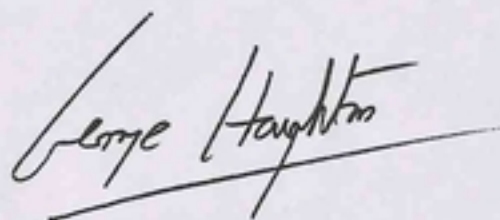
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### Handling

5. The transfer of McNulty may attract some publicity, particularly following Dr Mowlam's meeting with Sinn Fein. Terrorism and Protection Unit (TPU), have been advised of the proposed transfer date. Given the sensitivities surrounding Irish issues, Private Office may wish to inform the Prime Minister's Office of these arrangements.

6. The attached line to take has been passed to both the Home Office and Prison Service Communication Sections.

7. The move will take place as planned unless Ministers instruct to the contrary.



pp. PHIL WHEATLEY

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