

FROM: MRS D E McNALLY  
Political Development Team  
16 October 1996

*File*  
*JH 16/1x.*

cc PS/Secretary of State (B&L) - B  
PS/Sir John Wheeler (B&L) - B  
PS/Michael Ancram (B&L) - B  
PS/Malcolm Moss (DHSS, DOE & L) - B  
PS/Baroness Denton (DED, DANI & L) - B  
PS/PUS (B&L) - B  
PS/Sir David Fell - B  
Mr Thomas - B  
Mr Steele - B  
Mr Leach (B&L) - B  
Mr Bell - B  
Mr Watkins - B  
Mr Wood (B&L) - B  
Mr Beeton - B  
Mr Priestly - B  
Mr Hill (B&L) - B  
Mr Lavery - B  
Mr Maccabe - B  
Mr Perry - B  
Mr Stephens - B  
Ms Bharucha - B  
Ms Mapstone - B  
Mr Whysall (B&L) - B  
Ms Collins, Cab Off (via IPL) - B  
Mr Dickinson, TAU - B  
Mr Lamont, RID FCO - B  
HMA Dublin - B  
Mr Westmacott (via RID) - B  
Mr Campbell-Bannerman - B  
Mr Holmes, No 10

NOTE FOR THE RECORD

TALKS: TUESDAY 15 OCTOBER 1996

The Chairmen circulated to the parties last night papers they had received from the UUP and Alliance Party on the consideration of the International Body's proposals on decommissioning.

2. On examining the UUP paper, it would appear to be the paper the Party published earlier on addressing decommissioning and the

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Alliance Party's paper is a copy of the evidence it put to the International Body.

Date: 16 October 1996

(Signed)

MRS D E McNALLY

Lord Cranborne may approach you in the margins of Cabinet or ask you about his approach he has had for a meeting with Bertie Ahern, the leader of the Fianna Fail party. The approach has come from Paddy Haughey (no relation to Charles, I think). Haughey is a very wealthy Northern Irish businessman, who has lots of contacts in Dublin, and is also a member of the Irish Republic's Senate (appointed by the Taoiseach). He is not a politician as such, but describes himself as an independent Nationalist. He has close contacts with the SDLP.

As you know, Ahern has not done much over the last year to earn our friendship or admiration, to say the least.

I have not yet asked Veronica about this approach, because it is still a very informal backdoor proposal. But my own view is that it would be better if all for Ahern to meet Cranborne, and hear something of the British Government's view, with a Unionist flavour. So I suggest you encourage Cranborne if he asks you.

JOHN HOLMES

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