

CONFIDENTIAL



+ file. 18/x

From: Edward Oakden

Date: 13 October 1996

MR HOLMES

HUME/ADAMS INITIATIVE

✓ spoke to Teahon
The word permanent was not
mentioned, but Doherty had made
clear that "everyone" accepted that the
aim was an inclusive settlement,
reached at the negotiating table.
John 17/x.

I mentioned that Paddy Teahon had told me on the phone on Friday that Pat Doherty had contacted him the previous night. He had wanted to emphasise that the IRA were serious about this initiative. It really was a guarantee. If the British Government published the text that Hume would be giving us that evening, a cessation would follow. Teahon would know that Doherty was in a position to speak authoritatively about this, and could deliver.

Teahon, who had given Rita O'Hare a very bad time about Lisburn on the day before the IRA had accepted responsibility, said that Doherty could not expect that, in the wake of Lisburn, the British would simply go snap. They would need time to establish whether the cessation was really unequivocal. Doherty had accepted this.

Teahon said he passed this on for what it was worth. We would know who Doherty was, and that he was more in a position to deliver than, say, Adams.

Comment

We had a word about this, and in particular whether Doherty said that the ceasefire would be permanent. I did not have a chance to speak further to Teahon, and have not reported the conversation meanwhile. As you are likely to speak to Teahon before I do, could you check the point?

Edward

EDWARD OAKDEN

f\hume.jd

CONFIDENTIAL