

RESTRICTED

Ros

Tues. V. useful given how long
the record took to arrive.

From: Ros Pearce
Date: 6 August 1997

Philip Barton

Philip
7/8

cc Press

SS/NIO and Adams talks: Readout from Quentin Thomas NIO

A full note on this meeting will be completed by David Brooker of the NIO and should be with us later today.

Quentin supplied a quick readout of the main areas covered:

The meeting lasted two hours and consisted of six on each side.

It was a good meeting in terms of tone and covered wide ranging issues:

i) SS/NIO trusted that cease fire would be maintained in both word and deed and hoped that SINN Fein would ensure this was so, so that they could join in the talks process.

ii) SS/NIO also said that they were committed to the joint line on decommissioning and hoped SINN Fein would join this commitment as soon as possible.

iii) Parades SINN Fein had been helpful in Derry

iv) SINN Fein brought up the subjects of Prisoners, RUC, Bloody Sunday and Constitution. On the latter they wanted to work to end partitioning and again commented on the "Unionist" tone of the PM's speech in Belfast.

SS/NIO mostly responded without substance to all the above.

Further meetings?

SS/NIO stated that these were possible.

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

- 2 -

PM meeting?

SS/NIO responded that once SINN Fein qualified and had been admitted to the talks that this would happen in line with PM meetings with other members of the talks.

Subsequent press lines.

SS/NIO

Glad cease fire had enabled meeting, hoped cease fire would be reflected in words and deeds.

Hope we are able to include SINN Fein in the substantive negotiations 15/9.

Urge SINN Fein to achieve earliest possible progress on decommissioning.

Confidence building measures is a two way street.

Quentin Thomas can be reached at Castle Building Belfast 522286 if further details are needed before the full NIO note arrives.

Qes .

RESTRICTED