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10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

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PHUF

From the Private Secretary

9 October 1997

Dear Ken,

PARADES

I have written to you separately about policy approval for the Parades Bill. Dr Mowlam also minuted the Prime Minister on 7 October about timing. The Prime Minister is content that you should surface the Bill, on the lines that you propose, next week. From various comments which David Trimble made to us yesterday, I would judge that he would prefer the longest possible gap between any announcement and his conference on 25 October. In other words, while he may be content for the news to come out in advance, he would not want it to come out just before the conference.

I am copying this to Jan Polley (Cabinet Office).

pp Philip Barton
JOHN HOLMES

Ken Lindsay Esq
Northern Ireland Office

[Handwritten mark]

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