

Mr Hill -B

TALKS, WEEK BEGINNING 16 SEPTEMBER

The Secretary of State was grateful for your submissions of 12 September. He is content with your suggested gameplan for next week, subject to Michael Ancram's views. In terms of timetabling, the following should be noted:

- The Secretary of State has SPM on Monday afternoon, so perhaps PS/Michael Ancram could arrange any meeting with the UUP;
- Now that EDX has been put back from Tuesday, the Secretary of State will be available for a meeting with the Irish at either 11 am or 2.30 pm;

PDT/1018 CPL1/23726

> The Secretary of State also agrees that the determination of the Alliance complaints should be given on Monday 23 September.

2. The Secretary of State unsuccessfully tried to contact Lord Alderdice this morning (he is in Helsinki) to ask about the status of the complaint against the UDP/PUP, in view of the fact that the similar DUP complaint against them was fully discussed and the determination given by the Governments during the course of this week. I understand from David Ford, Alliance General Secretary, that two of their lawyers are currently looking at the relevant papers to see if in fact they can conclude that the matter they have complained of has been fully dealt with already (and therefore withdraw it).

(Signed)

W K LINDSAY PS/SECRETARY OF STATE

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