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From the Principal Private Secretary

30 October 1997

Dear Ken,

MAJOR EVENTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Dr. Mowlam wrote to the Prime Minister recently about this. They discussed prospects briefly on 29 October. The Prime Minister continues to believe strongly in the importance of creating a better atmosphere in Northern Ireland through major public events. He is ready to do whatever he can to promote these, and to consider Northern Ireland as a location for international meetings. He would be happy to approach people like Elton John to perform in Belfast. I have no doubt he would also be ready to do a short video contribution to the BBC event, and to encourage President Clinton to do the same. Perhaps you could let us have a more specific list of the help you need, together with draft letters or messages, and the necessary timing for action, as appropriate.

I am copying this to Dominick Chilcott (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and Jan Polley (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever
John

JOHN HOLMES

K. Lindsay, Esq.,
Northern Ireland Office.

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