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From: John Holmes
Date: 5 November 1997

PRIME MINISTER

IN MEETING AFTER CABINET

I attach an NIO paper, and a Cabinet Office brief. You ought to glance at both. The paper itself tells you very little you do not know already. I think the annex about the shape of a settlement is broadly okay, except that I would be more cautious about the real need for the fourth point (standing intergovernmental machinery to enable the Irish Government to express views about Northern Ireland).

There are no decisions to take at the meeting. Its aim is to bring other Ministers into the loop on where we are going. I do not expect any difficulty, and the meeting should be quite short. You may have to intervene to correct a too pro-nationalist presentation from Mo.

She also proposes to touch on issues like Bloody Sunday and prisoners, but not to seek any decisions. I do not think a debate on Bloody Sunday in this forum would be helpful. I suggest you nip it in the bud if one shows signs of developing.

JOHN HOLMES