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cc PB  
AC

NO.0271

MR HOLMES

File  
McAliskey

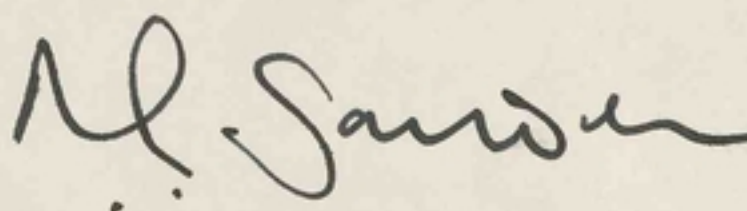
cc Ms Polley  
Mr Pakenham

**ROISIN McALISKEY**

You might like to see the next chapter in this case, which is recorded in the attached letter to the Home Office. Also attached is a letter which gives the latest public line.

2. Briefly, there is no likelihood of McAliskey being sent to Germany before 1999, if she continues to resist extradition. The case could go on much longer. A possible palliative (if we were looking for one) might be for her to be bailed to Northern Ireland, but we are told that the police would fight this in the courts, and it is not an action which the Government could itself initiate.

3. Dr Mowlam is very worried about the potential for the case to damage the peace process. There is no evidence that Sinn Fein are advising McAliskey or setting out to use the case to embarrass the Government. But that is the effect, and it no doubt suits Gareth Pierce's purposes as McAliskey's legal adviser. The Home Secretary has made it clear to Dr Mowlam that he sees no alternative to allowing the legal process to take its course.



N C SANDERSON

28 November 1997