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**10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA**

From the Principal Private Secretary

13 February 1998

Dee Ken,

SINN FEIN

I have deliberately not stirred up the Irish today, not least since they seem to be on side, but I did speak briefly to Berger tonight. He said that Clinton and Steinberg were working hard on our behalf. Clinton had spoken to Kennedy, and Steinberg was working the Hill as hard as he could. The clear message that IRA violence had to be seen to be unacceptable was being "quite well received".

So far so good.

I am copying this to John Grant (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), Jan Polley (Cabinet Office), Sir Christopher Meyer (Washington) and Veronica Sutherland (Dublin).

Yee

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'John'.

JOHN HOLMES

Ken Lindsay Esq
Northern Ireland Office

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