

KEY PERSONS PROTECTION SCHEME:

PROTECTING THE PUP AND UDP

Lines to Take

- Hope that the Secretary of State's decision to protect the homes of some of your Party colleagues and your Party Headquarters, at public expense, will help to allay your concerns in the matter. Arrangements now being made for the RUC to visit the homes and discuss with your colleagues the specific measures the police consider necessary. Thereafter, NIO officials will request DOE Construction Service to liaise with the householders and appoint contractors to have the various measures installed.
- (IF PRESSED to extend protection to other Party representatives - see Background Note).

These protection arrangements are limited in scope and cannot protect everyone. Focus must be on protecting those key individuals in the political process who are under particular threat. A judgement has to be made and the Secretary of State has carefully considered who within your respective Parties satisfied the protection criteria.

Background Note

1. It has been agreed that Messrs Ervine, Hutchinson, Smith, Spence and McDonald from the PUP; and Messrs White, English and Adams from the UDP should have physical protection measures installed at their homes under the auspices of the NIO's Key Persons Protection Scheme. Gary McMichael UDP is already protected. These individuals are believed to be strongly committed to the political process. All have been involved in exploratory dialogue from the

outset and a number have high public profiles in the political arena. Both Parties have publicly accepted the Mitchell principles. The judgement of NIO Ministers is that the death or injury, by terrorist action of any of these individuals, would seriously undermine the peaceful democratic framework of government in the Province.

2. It has also been agreed that the PUP's Headquarters will be protected; and that the UDP Headquarters should be protected, if requested by the Party and (NOT FOR DISCLOSURE) subject to confirmation from the security agencies that the premises are not being used for criminal activity. Confirmation on this point is presently awaited.