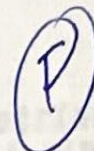


Urgent **From :****Home Secretary's Office
50 Queen Anne's Gate
LONDON, SW1H 9AT**cc JEH
EO

Angw, To note

cc-Press

Fax No : 0171 273 3965**To : MARIL ADAMS****Fax No :****Date :****Time :****No of Pages to Follow :****Message :**Make

Lives on today: terrorist

prisoner repatriation as promised

David

**If this fax is not clearly received or you have an
incorrect number of pages.****Please telephone 0171 273 2836/2207/2111.**

**REPATRIATION OF PRISONERS TO REPUBLIC OF IRELAND
DEREK DOHERTY, PAIRIC MacFHLOINN & MICHAEL O'BRIEN**

Line to take

† The Home Secretary has agreed to the repatriation of Derek Doherty, Pairic MacFhloinn & Michael O'Brien.

† Doherty was sentenced at the Central Criminal Court on 21 October 1994 to 25 years' imprisonment for conspiracy to cause explosions likely to endanger life. His co-defendant was permanently transferred to Northern Ireland on 21 July 1995.

† MacFhloinn was sentenced at the Central Criminal Court on 10/11 February 1994 to 35 years' imprisonment for kidnapping, conspiracy to cause explosions, attempted murder and possession of a firearm with intent.

† O'Brien was sentenced at the Central Criminal Court on 31 March 1993 to 18 years' imprisonment for attempted murder and possession of a firearm.

† The repatriation of prisoners between the UK and the Republic of Ireland takes place under the provisions of the Council of Europe Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons.

† All requests for repatriation to foreign jurisdictions, including the Republic, will continue to be considered on their individual merits.

† The UK's firm policy is not to agree to repatriation if, as a consequence, a prisoner would be likely to receive a substantial reduction in time to serve.

† The repatriations have been agreed on the basis of information supplied by the Irish authorities about the continued enforcement of the prisoners' sentences.

† The prisoners have consented to their repatriation and the Irish Court have granted warrants for their continued detention.

† These transfers will take the total number of PIRA prisoners repatriated to the Republic of Ireland to five.