



SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR  
NORTHERN IRELAND

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GR Papers to File

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file  
2/28  
24/2

22 February 1998

Deew John

I am writing to formally accept Elton John's offer of performing at Stormont on either Wednesday 27th or Thursday 28 May.

I am absolutely delighted that you have been able to progress these ideas so quickly and fruitfully. It is extremely generous of Elton to have agreed to waive his fee in performing in Belfast and to have altered his schedule to accommodate us.

The Prime Minister, as you know, has taken a very personal interest in this particular event, and I would like to convey his personal appreciation for the work which you have done and for Elton's public spirited approach.

Now begins the hard work - a great deal of work will be taking place between Jim Aiken, the Northern Ireland promoter, and your own technical and financial people to make the event a successful reality on the day.

We have already begun to receive correspondence from those who are anticipating a major concert at Stormont. Waheed Ali has sent me the attached

/LB





letter from Stephen Stewart at Green Inc enquiring about television rights. I am assuming that it is more appropriate for you rather than me to respond to this request.

I shall be keeping very closely in touch with progress on the concert and I look forward to meeting you again at sometime in the near future.

L M

MARJORIE MOWLAM

John, Waheed is a good friend -  
as I write this I realize you  
know him. He has done alot  
to help me in N-Ireland - and  
as usual with Waheed not seen  
or appreciated in the public  
domain. I know it is not my  
business but it would be good  
to have him involved