



CC: ~~ED~~  
JH.

PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE

WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AT

① Ken Lindsay, N10

CONFIDENTIAL

② File

John 6/12.

6 December 1996

Dear John,

**Northern Ireland**

The Lord Privy Seal saw David Trimble last night, and asked me to pass on the following comments on the meeting. Trimble :

- was happy with his US visit, except for his visit to the White House;
- did not mention "a few weeks" to Lord Cranborne;
- said he would refuse to take part in all-party talks if a definite time limit was put on the assessment period after the declaration of a cease fire. (Trimble said he would see you immediately after seeing Lord Cranborne);
- said pressure from his own party would not allow him to in any case, and he would have to risk the UUP carrying the can in those circumstances.

Yours,

Jane

**MRS J HOPE**  
**Principal Private Secretary**

John Holmes - No10