

SECRET AND PERSONAL
From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

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Roderic Lyne Esq CMG
Private Secretary to the
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London

November 1993

DRAFT LETTER TO THE TAOISEACH

In my separate letter to you today about the Prime Minister's Mansion House speech, I set out the two main areas of activity in carrying the talks process forward in the next few weeks. The first was further dialogue with the Northern Ireland parties, which Michael Ancram is carrying forward. The second is with the Irish Government, and we judge that the time has now come for the Prime Minister to emphasise the importance of this in a letter to the Taoiseach.

This is given added weight by yesterday's meeting between Sir Robin Butler and Mr Nally, an account of which you have already received. At this meeting, the Irish side again failed to produce their long-promised response to our joint framework document of 24 September and made it clear that if we could not work with them on the Taoiseach's "peace by the Irish process", they would not take forward the talks process.

With the aim of reminding the Taoiseach of his commitment at Brussels to take forward the talks process, I attach a draft letter for the Prime Minister to send to him. The Ambassador, who is generally in the picture, might be invited to deliver it.

A copy goes to John Sawers and Melanie Leach.

SC/STL/22231

SECRET AND PERSONAL

JONATHAN STEPHENS
SECRET AND PERSONAL