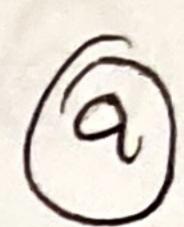
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FROM: PUS

21 DECEMBER 1993

CC.	PS/Secretary of	State	(L&B)	-	В
	PS/Mr Fell				В
	Mr Thomas				В
	Mr Williams			_	12 12 15
	Mr Wood (L&B)			_	
	Mr Daniell			_	Marie I
	Mr Maccabe			_	
	Mr Beeton			_	Deben (
	Ms Jude			_	Stant II

MICHAEL ANCRAM (L, B&DENI)

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PHONE CALL FROM JOHN HUME

I saw your Private Secretary's minute of 20 December following my conversation with John Hume on 16 December, regarding referendums. I doubt if there is more to what he was saying than that while a change to the Irish constitution will technically North and South respectively to the outcome of the talks process need not necessarily imply a referendum (or simultaneous pair of referendums) technically so described.

2. You could conceivably have, for example, a full house of by-elections to Westminster seats in Northern Ireland (as happened in protest mode by the Unionists after Hillsborough) with the Irish conducting a referendum on the constitution against the background of a talks outcome. But I think this is pretty theoretical - I do not detect any change in John Hume's approach and underlying it is or described.

Signed:

J A CHILCOT

21 DECEMBER 1993

JEN/B/12/11/42203