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FROM: J A Dew
British Embassy, Dublin

DATE: 17 January 1994

CC: PS/PUS(L+B) -B
PS/Mr Fell -B
Mr Legge -B
Mr Thomas -B
Mr Bell -B
Mr Watkins -B
Mr Williams -B
Mr Wood(L+B) -B
Mr Daniell -B
Mr Maccabe -B
Mr Brearley -B
Mr Caine -B
Mr Archer, RID -B

Mr Brooker -B

PRIVATE MEMBERS MOTION: 21 FEBRUARY 1994

1. While generally welcoming the draft attached to your minute of 14 January, I believe that it could be adapted to achieve a better impact in the Republic and specifically to encourage the sort of line Dick Spring has taken recently. We agree with Martin Williams's minute of 17 January, recommending that we address nationalist concerns, but believe that his points need to be strengthened if they are to be recognised (here at least) for what they seek to be.

2. I attach, in bull point form, a few ideas which could be introduced with these points in mind (they are offered as additional ideas, not as a replacement text).

3. The key question however will be what Ministers say about clarification, on which the Ambassador already commented separately.

(Signed)
J A Dew

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A real new start for both governments

- The Joint Declaration represents a genuine new beginning, for both governments. It has overwhelming support in both countries.
- It makes the resumption, and successful development, of the search for a practical settlement much easier and more assured, for everybody.
- The two governments will continue to work very closely together. We have never been so close, and we mean to go on that way ...

The two governments, not the Provos, must set the pace

- Patience is certainly needed. We will never run out of patience; the Joint Declaration is a permanent commitment; our offer to bring Sinn Fein into the political process, if only they put violence squarely behind them, will remain open indefinitely.

- The world is not simply waiting for the Provisionals to make up their minds. We cannot hold back from political movement.

The Joint Declaration gives new confidence to nationalists
[in addition to Mr Williams's points]

- The British Government will never allow any return to the bad old days of straight majority rule.

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