

(F: P1); Framework Doc

FROM: M J WILLIAMS
US(POL)

5 November 1993

cc PS/PUS (L&B) - B
PS/Mr Fell - B
Mr Bell - B
Mr Watkins - B
Mr Cooke - B
Mr Brooker - B
Mr Maccabe - B
Mr Kyle - B
Mr Quinn - B
Mr Archer, RID FCO - B
HMA, Dublin - B

Mr Thomas - B

LIAISON GROUP

I had an exchange with Mr O'Donovan on 4 November, about the next meeting of the Liaison Group. Those directly concerned may find it useful to have a little more detail than is put into paragraph 10 of Mr Barbour's note dated 4 November of the Delegation meeting at which the subject was discussed.

2. Mr O'Donovan confirmed that in principle they agreed that the next meeting of the Liaison Group would be in London next Friday 12 November, at the usual time. When I mentioned the paper, he said that it was all a matter of getting political clearance for it. He went on that the paper as previously drafted had needed to be modified to incorporate Mr Spring's six principles, which had themselves been somewhat honed for the purpose. The resulting paper still needed further political clearance before it could be handed over to us. He did not know when this might be obtained. However he agreed with my comment that in the absence of the paper there was little point in holding the meeting.

3. Mr O'Donovan subsequently commented that Mr Mansergh was currently writing the Taoiseach's speeches, and Mr Finlay the Tanaiste's. (I did not tell him that we had already guessed this.) He made it clear that Mr O hUiginn was not enjoying being simply required to give rapid clearance to texts produced by political advisers.

[SIGNED MJW]

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