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10th January 1992

File

Den Stephen

THE TAOISEACH'S NORTHERN IRELAND INITIATIVE

WITH JSW

Thank you for copying to me your minute of ~~31~~ December to Sir Robin Butler.

My Secretary of State shares the Prime Minister's reservations about extending the group to include Mr O'hUiginn. He would prefer to keep both sides to two (ie Messrs Nally and Dorr on the Irish side and Sir Robin and John Chilcot on ours). If, however, the Irish circle has already been widened to include Mr O'HUiginn, then clearly Mr Thomas here should be included as well.

I am copying this letter to Richard Gozney (FCO) and to Sir Robin Butler.

*Yours aw,
Tony*

A J D PAWSON