



SIDE LETTER

10 DOWNING STREET

I am writing to confirm our agreed understanding that the sentence in paragraph 4 of the Joint Declaration which reads "They accept that such agreement may, as of right, take the form of agreed structures for the island as a whole, including a united Ireland achieved by peaceful means on the following basis" does not involve any acknowledgement by the British Government of any legal right to any particular form of agreed structures, including a united Ireland, before the enactment of the necessary UK legislation envisaged in paragraph 4.

JOINT INITIATIVE

Though the trickiest part of the Joint Declaration initiative may yet lie ahead of us, may I congratulate you and the Northern Ireland Office on today's success?

This has been a long and difficult road, and it has required enormously hard work from your small and dedicated team, and from Robin Butler, to bring us thus far. Could you please pass my warmest thanks to all who have laboured so hard on this?

*John H.*

15 December 1993