

FROM: PS/SECRETARY OF STATE
17 NOVEMBER 1993

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- cc. PS/Secretary of State (L) [2]
- PS/Michael Ancram [3]
- PS/PUS(L) [4]
- Mr Deverell [5]
- Mr Cooke [6]
- Mr Rickard [7]
- Mr Beeton [8]
- Mr May [9]
- Mr Lyne, No.10 [10]
- Mr Sawers, FCO [11]
- Ms Leech, Cabinet Office [12]

MR THOMAS [1]

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH ARCHBISHOP EAMES

Archbishop Eames rang me at 2.00pm this afternoon. He said that he had had a long session with the Taoiseach last night and had persuaded him to include references to the constitutional guarantee in the latest draft of the Joint Declaration at two places:

- page 3, paragraph 5, line 7 now to read: "exercised following the agreement and consent of a majority of the people of Northern Ireland ...";
- page 4, paragraph 7, line 1 now to read: "Despite the affirmation by both Governments in the Anglo-Irish Agreement that any change in the status of Northern Ireland would only come about with the consent of a majority of its people, the Taoiseach recognises ...".

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2. The Archbishop also said that the Taoiseach had not closed the door on an amendment he had proposed about Articles 2 and 3:

- page 4, paragraph 7, line 12: to read "Constitution of the Republic, specifically Articles 2 and 3, of elements ...".

3. The Archbishop explained that the Taoiseach had not accepted this last amendment yet, but wanted to wait to see what happened tomorrow to the other two amendments to which he had agreed.

4. The Archbishop said he would be bringing a revised text with him tomorrow. I thanked the Archbishop for giving us this information in advance.

Joanna Dixon

pp.

J A STEPHENS

RODERIC LYNE

SECRET AND PERSONAL

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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