

DRAFT LETTER

Annex A

Roderic Lyne CMG  
Private Secretary of Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street

December 1993

JOINT DECLARATION

My letter yesterday attached a handling plan and briefing material for the time leading up to the making of the Joint Declaration by the Prime Minister and the Taoiseach and the period shortly afterwards. This letter supplements that package.

I attach:

- a copy of the letter which my Secretary of State will send to opinion formers and community leaders in Northern Ireland with copies of the Declaration;
- a briefing note (which will carry the Conservative Research Department imprint) for the Government Whips office based on the letter to be used in Northern Ireland but incorporating some additional material on 'what the Declaration does not do';
- a reworked and expanded set of the briefing lines which were attached to my letter yesterday taking into account recent changes to the text and the need for a crisper focus.
- a clean copy of the final text of the Joint Declaration.

Our understanding from this morning's meeting was that you would provide the drafts both for the Prime Minister's Commons Statement and Broadcast. (You also have a draft opening statement from us for the Press Conference.)

SECRET AND PERSONAL

Sir Patrick Mayhew believes that his letter provides a very useful briefing note and hymn sheet for use this week, and you may wish to draw on it when drafting the Prime Minister's various scripts for tomorrow. A slightly edited version of the letter to be used in Northern Ireland will also be used as a frontispiece to an A5 pamphlet version of the Declaration which the Northern Ireland office will distribute very widely in Northern Ireland on Friday.

The Prime Minister may also like to know how we foresee tomorrow's schedule:

- a. 08.30 Secretary of State for Northern Ireland attends No 12 meeting.
- b. 09.00 NIO Ministerial team and PPSs briefed by Secretary of State of Northern Ireland.
- c. 09.15 Michael Ancram arrives at Stormont and begins intensive briefing (continues all day).
- d. 11.00 - 11.30 Summit
- e. 11.45 Prime Minister and Taoiseach doorstep in No 10 Downing Street.
- f. 12.00 - 12.30 Press Conference.
- g. 12.00 copies of Joint Declaration placed in Vote Office by NIO.
- h. 12.00 FCO send Declaration text with Guidance Telegram to posts (HMA Washington and the US Ambassador in London will have been briefed during the morning by FCO).
- i. 12.00 Briefing note to Government Whips Office

0900  
VCR  
meeting  
going ahead.

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- j. 14.00 Secretary of State for Northern Ireland addresses Conservative backbenchers
- k. 15.30 PM statement in Commons, Lord Wakeham repeat in Lords.
- l. c17.00 Secretary of State for Northern Ireland departs for Belfast
- m. c17.00 PM records Ministerial Broadcast (for transmission 2100, 2200 and 2230)
- n. c19.00 Secretary of State for Northern Ireland arrives in Belfast for intensive media schedule.

I am sending copies of this letter to John Sawyer, Melanie Leech, and Joan Bailey.

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