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29 November 1993

From: D E S Blatherwick

To: Sir R Butler

cc: Mr Q Thomas, NIO
Mr G Archer, RID

MEETING WITH THE TAOISEACH, FRIDAY 26 NOVEMBER

1. I promised to put down any additional points arising from the above meeting which occurred to me on reading your own note. I have little to add.

2. Reynolds said that he thought he had been taken for a ride by the Prime Minister over the Brussels statement, which in the light of subsequent events had been much over-interpreted by HMG. He claimed that the omission from the Irish text of two key PIRA demands - self-determination for the whole island and a time limit for British withdrawal - represented major PIRA concessions. He also remarked that PIRA and the Loyalists had demonstrated their ability over recent weeks to stop acts of violence by their members, by inference in response to a request from himself.

3. Reynolds was more angry than I have ever seen him, largely I think because of the Panorama affair but also because he took our new text as confirmation that we were playing games with him.

(Signed)
D E S Blatherwick
H M AMBASSADOR

SECRET

cc P.S. 30/11/93
P.S. SJS
P.S. Michael Amman
P.S. P.M.
P.S. N. Feil
N. Donnell
N. Cook
N. Rishal
N. Beaton
N. Ray

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