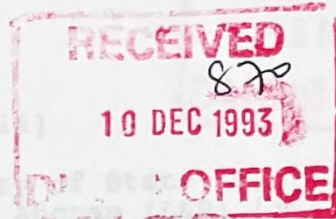


10 December 1993

From: D E S Blatherwick,
Dublin.

To: Mr Thomas

cc: PS/SofS (L&B)
PS/Michael Ancram (L&B)
PS/PUS (L&B)
PS/Mr Fell
Mr Bell
Mr Williams
Mr Cooke
Mr Archer, RID



JOINT DECLARATION INITIATIVE: OPENING STATEMENT AND BRIEFING

1. We spoke. I have handed copies of the draft statement by the Prime Minister and the questions and answer material to the DFA (David Donoghue, in the absence of both OhUiginn and Dorr in Brussels) and to Frank Murray. I said that they were ad referendum the Prime Minister, and we looked forward to Irish reactions. As you suggested, I tried to steer them off the idea of a meeting.

(Signed)
D E S Blatherwick,
H M AMBASSADOR

SECRET & PERSONAL

JONATHAN STEPHENS
PS/Secretary of State
CAB Ext 6452
9 December 1993