

carB
Press



NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE

WHITEHALL

LONDON SW1A 2AZ

1) c: Alex ✓
2) Prime Minister ✓

copy. 17/12 ✓

17 December 1993

Roderic Lyne CMG Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
LONDON

Dear Roderic,

INTRA-UK TRANSFER OF PRISONERS

There is some rumbling in the press, who have renewed their interest concerning the arrangements for the Intra-UK Transfer of Prisoners, and there appears to be a possibility that some documents have been leaked. The Sun, today, carries an article claiming that transfers are being considered as a "back door" form of Amnesty. In other words, that as part of the peace process PIRA life sentence prisoners will be transferred from England to Northern Ireland so that they can take advantage of the possibility of shorter periods in prison.

It is not clear what documents have been leaked, if any, however, you may find the attached lines to take, and short background note, useful in case of enquiries.

I am copying this letter to Joan MacNaughton

Yours sincerely,

Simon Rogers
SIMON ROGERS