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FILE F/Chilcot - KK



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

16 December 1993

Dear Mr Chilcot

FOLLOW UP TO THE JOINT DECLARATION

We spoke on the telephone this morning. We shall need to develop a second generation of lines to take in briefing today, starting with the lobbies at No. 10 at 10 am and 11 am, and building on the remarks made by your Secretary of State last night and on the Today programme. We shall be able to deploy a number of points in Prime Minister's Questions this afternoon. Our line should be copied widely to Cabinet Ministers and others.

Since our conversation, I have had a first shot at a few points. My cockshy is enclosed. I should be grateful if you could amend it and add to it, and let me have first comments over the telephone at 0950. There will undoubtedly be a further range of questions which has not occurred to me.

I would be grateful for any further information on the reported decision of the Provisionals to convene a meeting this weekend of the General Army Council.

It would be helpful also to have this morning a summary (which we could circulate widely and update at intervals) of supportive statements from different quarters - key points and quotations from the Archbishop of Canterbury, Archbishop Eames (?), Archbishop Worlock's joint statement with Bishop Sheppard etc.

I am sending copies of this letter to Jonathan Stephens in Belfast, to John Sawers (FCO) and to Melanie Leech (Cabinet Office).

Yours Sincerely

R. Lyne

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