

HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Patrick Mayhew MP Secretary of State Northern Ireland Office Whitehall LONDON SW1A 2A7.

27 May 1993

Dear Patrick

I write on a somewhat delicate matter.

To increase my own understanding of the situation in Northern Ireland, I would very much like to reactivate my dormant contact with Provisional Sinn Fein. I have not had any direct contact since I became Chairman of the Northern Ireland Back Bench Committee: indeed not for a year or so before that.

I wish to renew my contact merely to hear what Provisional Sinn Fein IRA is saying in the light of developments over the last two years or so. Obviously I would do so in a purely private and personal capacity. If you would prefer me not to go ahead as I propose, I would - of course - concur with your wishes. In the past, I have had occasional contact with Belfast and Londonderry Sinn Fein councillors and also with people involved in the publication of the newspaper An Phoblacht. If I go ahead, I will seek to reactivate these contacts. Ys wer. Andrew

Andrew Hunter

Member of Parliament, Basingstoke

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