

SECRET

FROM: SIMON ROGERS  
PS/SECRETARY OF STATE (L)  
14 DECEMBER 1993

DESK IMMEDIATE

Copy No [ 10 ] of 26

cc: PS/Secretary of State (L&B)- B[1&2]  
PS/Michael Ancram (L,B) - B/M[3&4]  
PS/PUS (L&B) - B [5&6]  
PS/Mr Fell- B [7]  
Mr Alex Allan - No 10- \* [8]  
Mr G O'Donnell - No 10- \* [9]  
Mr R Lyon - No 10- \* [10]  
Mr Thomas- B [11]  
Mr Watkins- B [12]  
Mr Williams- B [13]  
Mr Bell - B [14]  
Mr Deverall- B [15]  
Mr Maccabe- B [16]  
Mr Cooke/Mr Daniel- B [17]  
Mr Rickard- B [18]  
Mr Archer RID- B [19]  
Mr Woodwood RID- B [20]  
Mr May- B [21]  
Mr Beeton- B [22]  
Mr Reid- B [23]  
Mr Brearley- B [24]  
Ms Jude- B [25]  
Mr Caine [26]

\* by hand

NOTE FOR THE RECORD - JOINT DECLARATION - HANDLING PLAN VCR MEETING  
AT 12.00 ON TUESDAY 14 DECEMBER 1993

It was noted that the final text of the Joint Declaration should be available today (Tuesday) at 16.00. On the assumption that this would be the case the following action points were agreed:

Gus O'Donnell/Alex Allan

- to make arrangements for the Prime Ministerial meeting at 10.45, Wednesday at No 10,
- to make arrangements for the doorstep afterwards,
- to arrange the press conference (and to confirm the venue),

SECRET

SOFS/MIR/20223

SECRET

- to prepare a No 10 press notice (for which they will need a copy of the final version of JD by 07.00 on Wednesday morning), and
- No 10 will place the press notice, together with a covering note of bull points in the Whips' Office (bull points to be supplied by NIO).

Secretary of State  
Mr Bell/Mr Archer/Mr Beeton

- to prepare a one liner on the purpose of JD by 16.15,
- to prepare a list of bull points to attach to the No 10 paper going into the Whips' Office (in consultation with Mr Ancram and Mr Caine) by 16.15,
- to have available, by 10am on Wednesday, 600 copies of JD to be placed in the Vote Office and Printed Paper Offices in the Commons and Lords,
- to have a set of Q&A material and an annotated JD available by 16.15,
- to prepare a draft letter of endorsement for the Secretary of State to attach to JD for circulation in Belfast in Libraries etc, and
- in slower time, to consider the production of JD by HMSO.

SIGNED  
Mr Wood

- to prepare a NIO(B) press release,
- to have available 200,000 copies of a JD pack to be placed in Libraries, post offices and social security offices on Friday. The pack to include a letter of endorsement by the Secretary of State (being drafted by Mr Bell).

Mr Maccabe

- to refine the lists of NI contacts for the Secretary of State and Michael Ancram.

SECRET

Michael Ancram

- to speak to Michael Mates and Peter Bottomley and
- to consider, with Mr Caine, arrangements for briefing backbenchers.

Secretary of State

- to speak to Malcolm Moss and Tom King.

Other Points

It was also noted that the Prime Minister would want to be briefed further on the handling arrangements and that John Wakeham should be included on the copy list of documents from now on.

SIGNED

SIMON ROGERS  
PS/Secretary of State (L)  
OAB Ext 6461  
14 December 1993