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FROM: PS/SECRETARY OF STATE  
5 FEBRUARY 1991

cc. PS/SofS  
Mr Pilling  
Mr Deverell

Mr  
6/2

PS/PUS

POLITICAL MOVEMENT AND THE PROVISIONALS

I attach a copy of Charles Powell's minute in response to the Secretary of State's note of 30 January to the Prime Minister.

2. The Secretary of State has also shown his minute to the Prime Minister to the Chief Constable of the RUC and the GOC Northern Ireland; PUS was present on the first occasion and myself on the second. The GOC said that he would not wish to add or subtract anything to or from the minute, and his only comment of substance was to say that he foresaw no problems in de-escalating the army presence, should that be required in relation to a developing ceasefire situation.

X |

3. The Secretary of State will be meeting the Prime Minister to discuss this topic on Wednesday 13 February at 3.15 pm. The Secretary of State would be grateful for short lines-to-take/ speaking notes from PUS, to reach me by close of play this Friday, 8th February, please. The pre-brief for this meeting is due to take place immediately following the morning meeting next Tuesday, 12 February.

*A J D Pawson*

A J D PAWSON  
Private Secretary  
OAB Extn 6462  
5 February 1991

Tony Pawson, Esq.,  
Northern Ireland Office.