## CONFIDENTIAL

50/221/2/93 Amcc/207/2/93

FROM: PUS

22 FEBRUARY 1993

Wa FEB 1985

cc. PS/Secretary of State (L&B)
PS/Mr Mates (L,B&DFP)

PS/Mr Hanley (L, B&DENI) - B PS/Mr Fell - B Mr Thomas - B Mr Ledlie - B Mr Bell - B Mr Steele - B Mr Williams - B Mr Watkins - B - B Mr Wood (L&B) Mr Hill - B Mr Cooke - B Mr Stephens - B Mr Dodds - B Mr Leach - B Mr Rickard - B Mr Quinn Mr Caine - B Mr Archer RID, FCO - B HMA Dublin - B

MR MACCABE - B

## TALKS: SECURITY: CONVERSATION WITH THE REV WILLIAM McCREA MP

Thank you for yet another of your and PAB's outstanding reports.

- 2. You brought out vividly for me the flavour as well as the substance of Mr McCrea's outlook, and that of those he represents.
- 3. You showed if I may say so considerable moral courage in facing him with the implications of what he had said, as reported in paragraph 6 of your note, about the risk that rising Loyalist violence will alienate public support in Great Britain for legitimate and constitutional unionism.
- 4. I found intriguing Mr McCrea's movement towards Molyneaux/UUP thinking on constitutional change and wonder how far this foreshadows a platform for a leadership bid (with a contrasting platform for Mr Robinson?).

(signed)

J A CHILCOT

22 FEBRUARY 1993

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JEN/B/2/23/35098

## CONFIDENTIAL

From: PS/Secretary of State

22 February 1993

PS/Mr Hanley (B&L) - B PS/PUS (B&L) - B

PS/Mr Fell - B Mr Thomas (B&L) - B

PS/Mr Mates (B&L) - B

cc PS/SofS (B&L) - B

Mr Ledlie - B

Mr Bell - B Mr Steele - B Mr Williams - B Mr Watkins - B

Mr Wood (B&L) - B

Mr Hill - B Mr Cooke - B

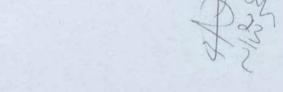
Mr Stephens - B

Mr Dodds - B Mr Leach - B Mr Rickard - B

Mr Quinn - B Mr Caine

Mr Archer, RID - B HMA, Dublin - B

Mr Maccabe - B



TALKS: SECURITY: CONVERSATION WITH THE REV WILLIAM McCREA MP

The Secretary of State has seen your note of 18 February recording your conversation with Mr McCrea. The Secretary of State has commented that Mr McCrea's mind is clearly closed against any kind of attempt to reach an accommodation with nationalists,

Secretary of State recognises that there are people like him in the Unionist community but believes that there are many more - and probably an increasing number - who think very differently.

Signed

W R FITTALL Private Secretary

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PM/SOFS/12968