

489/91

From: PS/Secretary of State (B) cc  
1 August 1992

- PS/SofS (B&L) - B
- PS/Mr Mates (DFP, B&L) - B
- PS/Mr Hanley (DENI, B&L) - B
- PS/PUS (B&L) - B
- ~~PS~~/Mr Fell - B
- Mr Thomas - B
- Mr Bell - B
- Mr Ledlie - B
- Mr Alston - B
- Mr Bentley, HOLAB
- Mr Steele - B
- Mr Wood (B&L) - B
- Director, TFU - B
- Mr Cooke - B
- Mr D J R Hill - B
- Mr Leach o/r
- Mr Rickard - B
- Mr Petch - B
- Mr May, PAB - B
- Mr Rogers - B
- Mr Archer, RID - B
- HMA Dublin - B

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Mr Durbin, CPL - B

UNDER  
SEC 31318  
1 AUG 1992  
DEPT

*cc Mr Walker of*

*me*

PROSCRIPTION OF THE UDA

For the record, the Secretary of State spoke on the phone to Dr Paisley (at 10.45 am) and to Mr McNamara (at 11.40 am) before this morning's public announcement.

2. He said that he was satisfied after a lengthy review that the UDA met the Government's published criterion for proscription, namely that "it was primarily and actively engaged in the commission of criminal terrorist acts". This was of course tighter than the statutory requirement. He had therefore signed an Order this morning proscribing the organisation. In the case of Mr McNamara, he added that Sinn Fein had been lamentably supportive of the PIRA campaign but he regarded that organisation as different in kind to the UDA. The position of Sinn Fein would nevertheless be kept under review.

3. Dr Paisley said simply that he appreciated the call. Mr McNamara said that he too appreciated the call and would support the Government's position.

4. Mr Mates had similar conversations with Mr Maginnis, Sir James Callaghan and Mr Walker (who had telephoned following press speculation earlier). He was unable to reach Mr Hume or Dr Alderdice, both of whom are on holiday, though Mr Hume was due to call in to his constituency office this afternoon and will be given a fax of the Secretary of State's letter. Mr Molyneux is in the United States.

Signed

DAVID FERGUSON  
Private Secretary

LD/SOFS/10299