

RECEIVED - 3 JAN 1997  
NC/S/1

FROM: PS/SECRETARY OF STATE (B)  
23 December 1996

cc PS/Secretary of State (B&L) \*  
PS/Sir John Wheeler (B&L) \*  
PS/Michael Ancram (B&L) \*  
PS/PUS (B&L) \*  
PS/Sir David Fell \*  
Mr Steele - B  
Mr Bell \*  
Mr Ray - B  
Mr Leach - B  
Mr Watkins \*  
Mr Wood (B&L) - B  
Mr Hill \*  
Mr Beeton \*  
Mrs Brown - B  
Mr Cornick - B  
Mr Maccabe \*  
Mr Stephens \*  
Ms Bharucha - B  
Mr Whysall B  
Mr N Carson - B  
Mr D Lavery - B  
Mr Lamont, RID - B  
HMA Dublin \*  
Mr Elletson - B  
Lady Olga Maitland - B  
Mr Campbell-Bannerman - B  
(with attachment)

*Ms Bharucha*  
*6/1*

Mr Thomas

TELEPHONE CALL FROM ROY BEGGS MP

I should be grateful for advice for the Secretary of State on the idea that the Irish Government, underwritten by the US or EU, or any new IRA ceasefire as set out in the attached newspaper articles (not to all).

2. The Secretary of State phoned Roy Beggs on Saturday night to discuss this. The Secretary of State reports that, rather surprisingly, Mr Beggs was quite interested in the idea of the US underwriting an Irish guarantee. Mr Beggs felt it should not be dismissed. The Secretary of State took note and would be grateful for your advice on this idea.

(SIGNED)

ROBERT CRAWFORD  
Private Secretary