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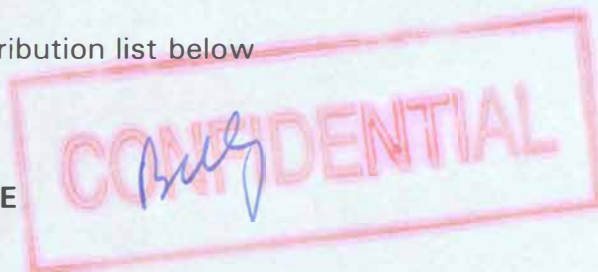
FROM: PS/SECRETARY OF STATE  
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Mr Crawford (PAB)

MEETING WITH PETER QUINN AND ROY MAGEE



Thank you very much for the briefing which you supplied for the Secretary of State's meeting with Peter Quinn and Roy Magee, the two independent facilitators in the indirect contact talks. This took place yesterday in Parliament Buildings. Billy Gamble, you and I were also present.

2. The Secretary of State began by thanking Messrs Quinn and Magee for the work they had done with the Orange Order and the Garvaghy Road Residents' Committee (GRRC). She asked for their views on how the process had gone. Mr Quinn said that the GRRC might be interested in marches down the Garvaghy Road, though not every year and provided it was part of a package which included the social and economic regeneration of the area ie the rest of Portadown. There was a clear view in the GRRC that they did not want the Craigavon Partnership or Portadown 2000 to have control of disbursement of money - mainly because Unionists were thought to be in control of these bodies. He said that it was also clear McKenna did not call all the shots, but there were some tough people behind him. Interestingly, Mr Quinn said the GRRC would like someone from the public sector to be involved in the disbursement of money which came to them.

3. On the other side, Mr Magee said that it was becoming clear that the Grand Lodge was not in control, or even the County Lodge but it was actually down to local level. Gracey was still hardline and Jones fluctuated in his views. The only thing the local Lodge was concerned about was going down the Garvaghy Road this year. They continued to make applications for the march down the road every Sunday. Magee said he had thought that after the death of the Quinn children the local Lodge would have taken the

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opportunity to forego their right to march. At one stage in the process there was a suggestion that the residents could walk down the road and through the centre of Portadown (thus dealing with one of the GRRC complaints that Portadown centre was out of bounds for Nationalists), then the Orange Order could do the same. But nothing had come of it. Mr Quinn said they were concerned at a march which Dr Paisley was proposing for 15 August when the residents had bands coming into the area as well. **You** said you would check if applications had been made in respect of these.

4. In relation to the Parades Commission and how it was viewed in both communities, Mr Quinn said that it was accepted by Nationalists but they would not praise it. On the other hand, Mr Magee said that it was not acceptable in Loyalist circles and the preferred option would be for it to be given over to the Assembly. He suggested that one way of doing this might be to give the Assembly a watching brief over the Commission so that the Chairman could attend the Assembly or a Committee of it in the way a Minister might do to answer questions about matters for which he had responsibility. The Secretary of State said that Mr Murphy should make very clear in his contacts with the political parties that the Parades Commission was not likely to be transferred to the Assembly in the short-term. **(Action: PS/Mr Murphy).**

5. Returning to the GRRC, Mr Quinn said that it was not under the control of Sinn Fein and they had been very angry when Martin McGuinness had come down to the Garvaghy Road. In his view, it was important that someone should talk them through the economic package on offer. The Secretary of State thought that Mr McCusker was ideally placed to do this and preferably before the next potential confrontation on 15 August. On the other side, the cultural element was very important and again she thought an MBW type approach with a number of teams in the Portadown area could be a useful vehicle for taking this forward. You suggested that it would be useful to get local Unionists in touch with others who had benefited from MBW in Belfast. Mr Magee suggested Jackie Hewitt, who he said had a lot

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of clout even within the Orange Order and Fraser Agnew - a "reasonable no voter". The Secretary of State said the earlier the cultural identity issue was addressed on the Unionist side the better. It would provide a good backdrop for whatever else was to follow. Mr Gamble said that MPW could be put together quickly - in say 2 or 3 months. The Secretary of State reiterated that, if it was done in parallel with cultural identify initiatives, then it would be a win for both sides and would move the process forward.

6. In conclusion, the Secretary of State suggested that the situation should be reviewed after Mr Ingram's meeting with the Orange Order on 5 August. **Mr McCusker** should talk to both sides about an MPW approach, consider what could be done in cultural identity terms. Jonathan Powell should be acknowledged. She also asked **Mr Quinn** and **Mr Magee** to think about what their future role in all of this might be. It has to be said that neither appeared terribly keen to withdraw from it at this point. I would be grateful if further thought could be given to this and for an update to be provided, co-ordinated by Mr McCusker, for the Secretary of State's return from leave (on 21 August).

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