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FROM: KEITH JAGELMAN
PS/MICHAEL ANCRAM
30 JANUARY 1995

cc: PS/Sir John Wheeler (L&B) PS/Michael Ancram (L&B) PS/Baroness Denton (L, DANI&DED) - B/M PS/Mr Moss (L, DHSS&DOE) B/Mr PS/PUS (L&B) PS/Mr Fell Mr Thomas Mr Legge NI Perm Secs Mr Bell Mr Watkins Mr Williams Mr Leach Mr Wood (L&B) Mr Stephens 11000 Mrs Devlin Mr Brooker Mr Maxwell Mr Maccabe Mr Dodds HMA Dublin Mr Lamont, RID

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MUFAX ROOM

STORMONT HOUSE ANNEX

PS/SECRETARY OF STATE (L&B) - B

ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT: SINN FEIN, THE PUP AND UDP

Michael Ancram has seen Mr Brooker's submission of 30 January and noted the arguments contained therein. While the Minister accepts the phased approach which Mr Brooker has suggested - which indeed reflects a very much earlier view of his own - the Minister thinks to activate stage one now is premature for the following reasons:

- (a) In terms of XD it is difficult to justify as no apparent progress has been made and it would certainly be perceived as an <u>all carrot</u> approach without the donkey moving; and
- (b) Just as Sinn Fein appear to be prepared to engage in XD in discussion on social and economic issues (viz their paper on Meanscoil) it seems unwise to tell them that they can have this dialogue outside of XD leaving little if any incentive or substance to continue with XD.

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The Minister therefore believes that we should develop XD as currently envisaged for a little while longer before making this move.

SIGNED

KEITH JAGELMAN
PS/Michael Ancran
OAB Ext 6488
30 January 1995

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