

mr Carson.

CONFIDENTIAL

RECEIVED
PRIVATE OFFICE
17 FEB 1985
DEPT OF ENVIRONMENT (N.I.)

cc Under Secretaries

To all Assistant Secretaries

A recent Parliamentary Question put down by Harold McCusker asked the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland whether any officials had had meetings with elected representatives of Sinn Fein to discuss constituency matters since September 1984.

As you should already be aware, any such meetings should have been notified to this office and as we have had no such notification we can only assume that there have been none. However, in view of the nature of the question it is essential that written confirmation of this is received and, I should be grateful if you would confirm in writing that there were no such meetings.

Perhaps you would use this as a suitable opportunity to remind all Branches/Divisions under your control of the need for this office to be informed of all contact between officials and Sinn Fein.

Replies to this office by 27 February please.

E GUNNING
PS/Mr Patten

18 February 1985

*Mr Gunning
I am not aware of any
contacts between my Division
and Sinn Fein representatives*

CONFIDENTIAL

27480

18 Feb 85