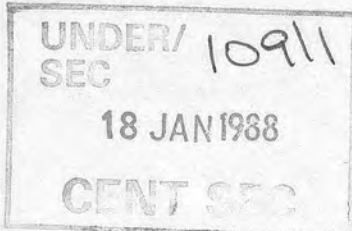


Mr J McConnell - M

CC PS/SofS (L&B) - M  
 PS/Mr Stanley (L&B) - M  
 PS/Dr Mawhinney (L&B) - M  
 PS/PUS (L&B) - M  
 PS/Sir K Bloomfield - M  
 Mr Burns  
 Mr Chesterton  
 Mr Spence - M  
 Mr M Elliott - M  
 Mr Kirk  
 Mr Bell  
 Mr N Hamilton - M  
 Mr Wood - M  
 Mr Masefield - M

REACTION TO HUME/ADAMS DISCUSSION

You will be interested to know about a discussion Dr Mawhinney had on Wednesday 13 January in the House of Commons with Seamus Mallon and Eddie McGrady.

2. They discussed a wide range of topics including John Hume's meeting with Adams. While Mr Mallon and Mr McGrady used their leader's argument to defend the holding of the meeting, the Minister was impressed with the lack of enthusiasm by which they put forward the argument and what appeared to him to be their embarrassment/discomfort.
3. In response to Dr Mawhinney saying to Mr McGrady that he found it difficult to reconcile McGrady's recent statement (regarding the relationship of the SDLP and Sinn Fein) with John Hume's meeting, Mr McGrady looked down at the table, said the two were not irreconcilable, but made no attempt to reconcile them.
4. Mr Mallon told the Minister that whatever else was the outcome of the Hume/Adams meeting, he should not think that John Hume would allow himself to be wrong footed.

*Rosalind Earnshaw*

ROSALIND EARNSHAW  
 PS/Dr Mawhinney

15 January 1988

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