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Dr Mawhinney  
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S.A.S

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FROM: Brian Mawhinney  
5 September 1990

cc PS/MofS (B&L) - B  
PS/Dr Mawhinney (B&L&DENI) - B  
PS/Mr Needham (B&L) - B  
PS/Lord Skelmersdale (B&L) - B  
PS/PUS (B&L) - B  
PS/Sir K Bloomfield - B  
Mr Ledlie - B  
Mr Chilcot - B  
Mr Parkes  
Mr Fell  
Mr Murray  
Mr Alston - B  
Mr Spence - B  
Mr Wilson, Cent Sec - B

Secretary of State (B&L) - B

Glor na nGael

I have seen your decision on Glor na nGael and Richard's minute of 3 September. I understand the delicacy of the information on which the decision was based. I also understand how difficult it can be both to verify the accuracy of such information and to balance various factors in coming to a judgement.

It is already clear that the opposition to the decision will become increasingly widespread and damaging to other policies to which the Government attaches considerable importance.

I hope therefore that, as part of the balance which had to be struck, consideration has been given to whether the long-term consequences of this decision - in political and other terms - are likely to be more or less damaging than the continuation of funding would be.

I think it would be helpful to give some urgent thought to how we can mitigate the more damaging effects of this decision while it stands.

Signed

BRIAN MAWHINNEY

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EG/PARLYUSS/1084