‘ON THE RUNS’

You have previously been in correspondence with the Northern Ireland Office about a number of individuals who are currently on the run but want to return to Northern Ireland and wish to be informed of their status if they were to do so.

Following investigations made by the relevant authorities in Northern Ireland I can now confirm that the necessary checks have been completed on seven more individuals.

On the basis of the information currently held, in respect of the following four individuals, there is no outstanding direction for prosecution in Northern Ireland, there are no warrants in existence nor are they wanted in Northern Ireland for arrest, questioning or charge by the police:
I enclose a letter informing each of their legal position. As we do not have an address for these individuals, I would be grateful if you would ensure that these letters are passed on to them.

However, the following three individuals would, in the current circumstances of their cases, face arrest and questioning if they returned to Northern Ireland.

- John Downey [102(6)] date of birth 19 January 1952

Yours sincerely,

Mark Sweeney
The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland has been informed by the Attorney General that on the basis of the information currently available, there is no outstanding direction for prosecution in Northern Ireland, there are no warrants in existence nor are you wanted in Northern Ireland for arrest, questioning or charge by the police. The Police Service of Northern Ireland are not aware of any interest in you from any other police force in the United Kingdom. If any other outstanding offence or offences came to light, or if any request for extradition were to be received, these would have to be dealt with in the usual way.

MARK SWEENEY
(Via Gerry Kelly)

March 2006

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