



FCS/84/66

## SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DEFENCE

## European Commission on Human Rights: Farrelll -v- the United Kingdom

- 1. Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 22 February to the Northern Ireland Secretary.
- 2. I agree with your proposal that the Government should make a counter offer. Not to do so would make our original willingness to consider friendly settlement appear hollow, and lose us valuable credit with the Commission. Conversely I think we have much to gain with them from showing willingness to put reasonable sums of money on the table. I therefore favour the Prime Minister's suggested starting figure of £20,000. Subject to that alteration I agree with the terms in which you propose to write.
- 3. I am copying this minute to the Prime Minister, the Northern Ireland Secretary, the Attorney General and the Home Secretary.

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(GEOFFREY HOWE)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office 2 March 1984 Ireland: Farell & M.O.D. Nov.79