

mess No 2/98 11

[Redacted]

at.

FROM:

[Redacted]

Police Division  
6 November 1997

cc: Mr Steele - O

Mr [Redacted]

Mrs [Redacted]

Mrs [Redacted]

[Redacted] - O

**MRIS - DEATH OF ROBERT HAMILL (LOG NO 2342)**

In your minute of 4 November you recorded the Irish Side's questions about the dropping of charges against three of the six men charged in connection with the murder of Robert Hamill. The Irish requested details of the evidence withdrawn and asked if there was any indication of the charges against the remaining three individuals proceeding. This issue may have been raised at the IGC yesterday.

In any event, the position is that these questions are matters for the Director of Public Prosecutions and not for the Northern Ireland Office. I have nevertheless spoken to the Director of Public Prosecutions' office and they have told me that the three charges were withdrawn because of a lack of evidence against the three individuals. Obviously it would have been inappropriate for me to ask what the prospect of charges against the remaining three individuals proceeding were, but they did confirm that the DPP was still considering these cases.

*Signed:*

[Redacted Signature]