

21

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL



NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE
16 24 JAN 1994
SIL DIVISION

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

20 January 1994

cc SofS (L+B).
Michael Mancran (L+B)
PS PUS L+B
MS Mr Bell L+B
Mr Thomas
Mr Bell
Mr Williams
~~Mr Daniell~~
Mr Maccabe

Mr Beeton

Dear Simon,

**PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING WITH THE
ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY: NORTHERN IRELAND**

As it records a private discussion, this letter should be given a limited distribution and must not be quoted to third parties.

The Prime Minister and the Archbishop of Canterbury held one of their periodic meetings on 19 January. Part of their discussions touched on Northern Ireland.

The Prime Minister gave his view on the current situation. The Archbishop wondered whether there was anything the Anglican Church could do to help. He mentioned that he was due to visit Northern Ireland later in the year. He believed that he had good lines open to the Presbyterian Church. He wondered if there was anything he could do to influence the thinking of that Church in combatting fundamentalism and in helping to isolate the Reverend Ian Paisley. The Prime Minister welcomed the offer and promised that it would be considered in the light of the situation prevailing at the time.

I am copying this letter to John Sawers (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

*Yrs ever,
Philippa*

MS. PHILIPPA LESLIE-JONES

Simon Rogers, Esq.,
Northern Ireland Office.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL