

S E C R E T A N D P E R S O N A L

DRAFT LETTER FOR SIGNATURE BY PS/SECRETARY OF STATE TO:

Roderic Lyne CMG
Private Secretary to the
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London

October 1993

**JOINT DECLARATION INITIATIVE: PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING WITH
MR MOLYNEAUX**

The Prime Minister is hoping to meet Mr Molyneaux in Blackpool to reassure him about the Government's position in the wake of the Hume/Adams démarche and the intense public speculation which has followed it.

I attach a speaking note which the Prime Minister might wish to use for this occasion. It does not seem appropriate at this time to suggest that the Prime Minister does more than offer Mr Molyneaux reassurance in the most general terms that the Government has not been involved in secret deals or proxy negotiations to sell out the people of Northern Ireland. The Prime Minister can allude to the potential significance of what is happening however, promise to keep Mr Molyneaux informed about further developments, and repeat his commitment to proceeding only on the basis of the consent of the people of Northern Ireland. The script also mentions that we had not thought it right to brief others, including Dr Paisley at the present.

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