

CONFIDENTIAL

F/Talk. 124

b.c. -1P



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

3 August 1993

John John,

NEXT ANGLO-IRISH SUMMIT

The convention, I believe, is that we should hold summits with the Irish twice a year, in the run up to meetings of the European Council. It is the Irish turn to invite the Prime Minister to Dublin. Nevertheless, if a summit before the December Council is to be feasible, we shall need to move fairly fast to earmark possible dates.

We have trawled speculatively through the Prime Minister's diary. There are already very few options. Perhaps only 3 November, 5 November, 2 December and 6 December.

These are not dates to be mentioned to the Irish Government at this stage, not least because there is bound to be a political dimension to the timing of the next bilateral summit. But it would help our diary planning if I could have a view from you and the NIO on any obvious pros and cons to these four possible dates.

I am copying this letter to Jonathan Stephens (Northern Ireland Office) and to Melanie Leech (Cabinet Office).

*John, Mary,
Roderic.*

RODERIC LYNE

R J Sawers Esq
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

CONFIDENTIAL

ls