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15/3/88

Rt. Hon. John P. Stanley M.P.,
Minister of State,
Northern Ireland Office,
Stormont Castle,
BT4 3ST

During our meeting in the later part of last year, I mentioned to you that I was keen to arrange to visit some of the prisons. I had thought to do this when the initial busyness of being a new Party Leader had settled down, but, of course, in this situation initial busyness only gives way to further pressures on time, and I am keen to ensure that the visits do not recede too far into the future. I would therefore ask, that you consider this letter a formal request to make arrangements for visits to a number of prisons, and if you are agreeable, perhaps your office could liaise with my office here at Headquarters.

I have been in correspondence with a small number of individual prisoners at H.M.P. Maze, and I wonder if there would be any possibility of arranging to meet them as individuals on such a visit.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes.

Dr. John T. Alderdice
PARTY LEADER