

10 DOWNING STREET LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

15 September 1993

Jon In Alderdice,

The Prime Minister, who has been away from London this week, has asked me to thank you for your letter of 12 August, in which you asked for a meeting with him to discuss the political and security situation in Northern Ireland.

The Prime Minister has asked me to say that he looks forward to seeing you, and is glad to know that you are also discussing your concerns with the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Northern Ireland Office, Michael Ancram. He has asked his Diary Secretary, Sandra Phillips, to be in touch with you soon to discuss a time for the meeting. The Prime Minister very much regrets that his Far Eastern tour, beginning at the end of this week, and the Conservative Party Conference which follows hard on its heels, will inevitably cause some delay in setting up the meeting. If in the meantime you wish to pursue the security angle separately from your political discussions with Mr Ancram, he has suggested that you might have a word with Sir John Wheeler.

Pamie Lyne

RODERIC LYNE

Dr J T Alderdice