

SECRET AND PERSONAL



10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

30 November 1993

cc PS/S&S(B)
PS/Michael Ancram(L)
PS/PUS(L)
PS/Mr Fell
Mr Thomas
Mr Devereux
Mr Cooke

Mr Maccabe
Mr Rickard
Mr Beeton

Joan Jonathan,

**PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING WITH MR JIM MOLYNEAUX MP,
MONDAY 29 NOVEMBER**

The Prime Minister, accompanied by Mr Michael Ancram, M.P., met Mr James Molyneux for nearly an hour from 1020 p.m. on 29 November at the House of Commons.

This was a private meeting. It is essential to protect the confidence of Mr Molyneux and the contents of this letter must be carefully protected. No reference to the meeting should be made to Mr Molyneux or to third parties.

Mr Molyneux was in relaxed and genial form. He was much relieved that the day had gone so well, after a very difficult weekend. He thought that we might have emerged stronger as a result.

The Prime Minister mentioned his telephone conversation with the Taoiseach, and ran through the possible options for the Summit. He and Mr Molyneux agreed that there was a risk of the IRA announcing a ceasefire which could be extended if their conditions were accepted.

Mr Molyneux showed an interest in the possibility of our moving ahead with the Joint Declaration, if we could negotiate the **deletion of paragraphs 10 and 11. With some tidying up, paragraph 9 should not be so objectionable.** After some discussion of the Joint Declaration, Mr Molyneux agreed to have a meeting at 1030 a.m. on the morning of 30 November with Mr Ancram and me to take a closer look at the Joint Declaration, in conjunction with the British draft Joint Statement shown to him last week.

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Mr Molyneux also expressed the hope that some rapid progress could be made in strand one of the talks process. This would help with the Unionists. The Prime Minister asked Mr Ancram to consider whether it might be possible to announce by the end of the week that broad agreement had been established on an assembly.

I am sending copies of this letter to Joan MacNaughton (Home Office), John Sawers (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), John Pitt-Brooke (Ministry of Defence), Jeremy Heywood (HM Treasury) and Melanie Leech (Cabinet Office).

Yours man,
Roderic
RODERIC LYNE

*Mr Leech
Mr Richard
Mr Butler
Mr May
PMS to see*

Jonathan Stephens Esq
Northern Ireland Office