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cc RB

Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

10 May 1993

London SW1A 2AH

Dear Roderic,

Meeting with the Irish Prime Minister

Thank you ^{top enc} for copying to us your letter to William Fittall of 5 May about an early evening meeting with the Taoiseach on 16 June followed by a working supper.

We understand that the Northern Ireland Secretary sees no problem with the proposed timing. The Foreign Secretary himself would be able to attend early evening talks on 16 June, but would not be free for the working supper.

On his last visit to Downing Street on 25 September 1992 the Taoiseach was accompanied by the Irish Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Justice. Later, the Prime Minister saw the Taoiseach alone in Dublin on 6 December. The Taoiseach may want a similar group to that which he fielded last September, but all were then in his own party. With new Ministers and a coalition government it is not certain what he may now have in mind.

The Foreign Secretary suggests that our Ambassador, when passing the invitation to the Taoiseach should ask him which Ministerial colleagues he would wish to bring with him. The Ambassador might say that on our side the Northern Ireland Secretary and Foreign Secretary will be available at least for the talks.

I am copying this letter to William Fittall (NIO) and Melanie Leech (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever,

(R J Sawers)
Private Secretary

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