



10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 3AA

From the Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

19101. cc PS/SOS(8) M
 PS/Im Scott(8) M
 PS/PUS(8) M
 PS/Im Bloomfield M
 2A.9/4
 Mr Brennan
 Mr An Stephens M
 Mr. Chesterton OTR
 Mr Bell.

NORTHERN IRELAND

2. SOS to see (in NI) P1.

The Prime Minister has considered your minute of 13 June reporting your recent discussion with the Taoiseach. She will of course be ready to have a brief meeting with him in the margins of the European Council. She is, however, concerned by his attitude as revealed in your minute. It seems to the Prime Minister that the Taoiseach quite fails to realise the difference in scale between the political problems facing our Government and his over the Agreement. Ways have to be found to provide reassurance to the Unionists, and that must on any objective measurement have priority over the Irish Government's concerns about the Agreement. Moreover the Prime Minister does not consider the case for three-man courts a particularly strong one; finds the Taoiseach's statement that it was unfortunate that the Irish Government had been requested to assist with lobbying over the Anglo-United States Supplementary Extradition Treaty astonishing; and resents suggestions that lack of progress with implementing the Agreement can be put down to the United Kingdom's account. She intends to make these points to the Taoiseach when they meet.

Now 16/6

Meanwhile I will make arrangements for a meeting with the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and the Northern Ireland Secretary before the Prime Minister's departure for the European Council.

I am copying this minute to the Private Secretaries to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and the Northern Ireland Secretary.

C.D. Powell

(C.D. Powell)

16 June 1986