

CONFIDENTIAL

CC NIO  
CPL  
HO  
CO

HS



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

20 January 1981

Anglo/Irish studies

The Prime Minister and the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary had a brief discussion yesterday afternoon about Ministerial responsibility for the inter-departmental preparations for the Anglo/Irish studies flowing from the Dublin Summit last month. It was agreed that the Lord Privy Seal should take the chair at Ministerial meetings of the inter-departmental committee.

It was also agreed that the Lord Privy Seal should deal with Parliamentary Questions arising from the Anglo/Irish studies except insofar as these fell within the competence of individual departments such as the Northern Ireland Office or the Department of Energy. By the same token News Department in the Foreign Office would be responsible for the press handling of general questions relating to the studies.

I am sending copies of this letter to Roy Harrington (Northern Ireland Office), Robin Birch (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster's Office), John Halliday (Home Office) and David Wright (Cabinet Office).

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

ES

G.G.H. Walden, Esq., C.M.G.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CONFIDENTIAL