

PRIME MINISTER'S TALKS WITH MONSIEUR MARTENS, PRIME MINISTER OF BELGIUM

The Prime Minister had talks today starting at 11.30 with Monsieur Martens, followed by a working lunch (which ended at 2.30). The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretary of State for Defence and Monsieur Henri Simonet, the Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs, were amongst the guests at the small working lunch (12 people in all).

The talks took place in a very friendly atmosphere. Subjects discussed included bilateral and Community affairs, particularly in the context of the European Council to take place in Dublin on 29-30 November. If asked, we can confirm that Britain's Budgetary contribution was covered in the discussion on Community affairs and, again if asked, Monsieur Martens was briefed on developments at the Constitutional Conference.

The Prime Minister's talks with Monsieur Martens can be seen in the context of other meetings she has had since coming to office with her European colleagues as follows:-

Chancellor Schmidt	- London - 10-11 May
President Giscard	- Paris - 5 June
Prime Minister Andreotti	- London - 15 June
The Taoiseach	- London - 5 September.