date: 14/11/79

BRIEFING AGREED BETWEEN NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE AND NO 10

At the invitation of the Prime Minister, Mr James Molyneaux MP had a meeting with the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Northern Ireland this afternoon to discuss security in Northern Ireland.

Mr Molyneaux expressed concern on behalf of the people in Northern Ireland about the present situation. The Prime Minister and the Secretary of State drew Mr Molyneaux's attention to the steps taken, since the Government took office six months ago, to improve the security situation. [FOR USE BY NIO ... some of which, like the recent agreement with the Government of the Irish Republic on cross-border co-operation and the appointment as security co-ordinator in Northern Ireland of Sir M Oldfield, required time to take full effect.]

If asked:

The Prime Minister hoped that Mr Molyneaux would attend the Conference.