

PRIME MINISTER

I spoke to Charles Johnston today about the Party Conference and Ulster.

He is strongly against an emergency motion on this subject for he feels that however it is worded, some publicity seeker is almost bound to oppose it. Instead of a motion, he would prefer a straightforward statement from Humphrey Atkins at 5.20 p.m. on the Wednesday afternoon. He feels that this would be by far the most effective way of dealing with Ulster. It would also ensure that there was no argument created by Ulster Unionists who might want to speak in a debate were it to take place.

*R. A.*

Richard  
4.9.79

*Alternately - if there is no demand we need make no provision for a statement. But I am happy with the above suggestion*

*cc {C Johnston  
A. Sullivan  
5/9/79.*