

Prime Minister



NORTHERN IRELAND

1. John Hume, the Leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party in Northern Ireland, who was himself elected to the new Assembly last week, telephoned from Strasbourg yesterday afternoon.
2. Although, on many aspects of Northern Ireland he and I hold opposing views, I know him fairly well.
3. He predicted:-
 - (a) A campaign of terror by the IRA in Northern Ireland generally, and against elected members of the Assembly in particular.
 - (b) A significant Protestant backlash.
4. His advice in these circumstances was to close down the Assembly straightaway, rather than be obliged to do so later on, as a result of increased terrorism.
5. I simply reported to John Hume that I would pass on to you that which he had said.

.../...

6. JEP has asked to see you. I have put him in your diary for 9.30 p.m. at your room at the House on Wednesday, 3rd November.

(I had in mind that you would come back to the House to dine after your Audience that evening).

- There will be
anyone at the
House that evening

and

26.10.82



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