

Ireland



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Type for Mr's signature

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Michael Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street
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11 November 1981

Dear Michael

Your letter of 2 November asked for a draft reply to Oliver Napier's letter on the Anglo-Irish Summit.

Mr Napier has welcomed the development of Anglo-Irish relations, as he did when he met the Prime Minister on 16 January, but has urged the Prime Minister to be more open about her meeting with the Taoiseach. Mr Napier's fears should have been allayed by the fairly detailed Joint Communique issued after last Friday's Summit and also the decision to publish the Joint Studies. By the time that Mr Napier receives a reply from the Prime Minister, he will have received a copy of the Joint Studies which are being published today. I attach a draft reply for the Prime Minister's consideration.

I am sending copies of this letter and the draft reply to Roderic Lyne (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and David Wright (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely
M W Hopkins

M W HOPKINS

ADDRESSEE'S REFERENCE.....

To	Enclosures	Copies to be sent to
<p data-bbox="123 388 536 588">Oliver Napier Esq The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland 88 University Street BELFAST BT7 1HE</p> <p data-bbox="181 834 454 865">(Full Postal Address)</p>		<p data-bbox="1007 834 1371 865">(Full Address, if Necessary)</p>

LETTER DRAFTED FOR SIGNATURE BY PRIME MINISTER
(Name of Signatory)

Thank you for your letter of 30 October. I know of the Alliance Party's constructive attitude towards the development of Anglo-Irish relations from our meeting on 16 January and I was grateful for your further helpful remarks.

Since you wrote, you will have heard that the Taoiseach and I decided on 6 November to publish the report which we had received on the Joint Studies and also the Joint Studies themselves (with the exception of the one on security). The Joint Communique following the meeting set out in some detail what had been discussed, and this has been amplified by my remarks at the Press Conference held after the meeting and by my statement of 10 November to the House of Commons.

I hope that this very considerable degree of openness will demonstrate clearly to the people of Northern Ireland that they have nothing to fear from the further development of Anglo-Irish relations.