



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

16 September 1982

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 3 September in which you ask to meet her to discuss employment and the prospects for the Northern Ireland economy.

The Prime Minister is fully alive to many problems, both economic and social, which exist in the Province, and appreciates the great difficulties which its people have had to face for such a long time. Indeed she remembers that at your last meeting with her, you presented the case for Northern Ireland most forcibly.

Mrs. Thatcher regrets, however, that, because of her existing commitments, she will not be able to meet you on this occasion. Rather, she would like to suggest that the points which you wish to make be put directly to the Secretary of State who, she understands, has a meeting with you at Stormont Castle on Monday.

M. C. SCHOLAR

Terry Carlin, Esq.