

The P.N. now does not want a meeting. M $\frac{4}{3}$.

(1)

PRIME MINISTER

European Parliament and Northern Ireland

You said today that you might want to have a meeting on this subject.

On 24 February Cabinet invited the Foreign Secretary "to consider urgently, in conjunction with the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and the Attorney General, whether the European Parliament had power to undertake a Study of political and economic affairs in Northern Ireland and what the UK could do to prevent such a Study, and to report his conclusions as soon as possible".

I understand that Mr. Pym is being consulted overnight and that you should receive a paper tomorrow which takes matters further than the preliminary legal advice which you have already received.

The Foreign Secretary will not be back until next week. Would you like to wait until then or should we try to arrange a meeting this week?

Which of the following would you like to attend?

- An FCO Minister ✓
- Northern Ireland Secretary
- Home Secretary
- Attorney General ✓
- Lord Chancellor ✓

A.J.C.

1 March 1983