

File 3



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

ANGLO/IRISH RELATIONS: NORTHERN IRELAND

The Prime Minister read the draft position paper enclosed with your letter of 31 October to Len Appleyard last night. She has indicated disagreement on three points:

- (i) Towards the end of paragraph 6 she has made clear that she will not accept the Irish ambition to have "an effective say" in "other areas of policy affecting the minority".
- (ii) At the end of paragraph 9 she absolutely excludes the notion that the two Governments would accept a formal obligation "to seek agreement" on all issues which might become subjects for the consultative process.
- (iii) In paragraph 11 she continues to find the Irish wish for the Joint Security Commission to have a consultative role in the establishment of operational guidelines unacceptable.

I am copying this minute to Mr. Appleyard (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and Mr. Sandiford (Northern Ireland Office).

C.D.P.

C.D. POWELL

1 November 1984