



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Press Secretary

PAINE MINISTER

Agreed
ms

NORTHERN IRELAND - MEDIA

I would like a clear steer from you for future planning on the handling of the media during any visit.

You have agreed to speak before the Camera, rather as you did in Stormont on the last occasion, instead of holding a press conference. In fact you have not given a press conference in Northern Ireland, but you have allowed yourself to be door-stepped and to be interviewed by radio and television.

The effect of this has been to give maximum

offence to the writing press and to provide
a platform for some pretty suspect people
like Malley of Downtown Radio, who gets
close to choking you with his microphone.

I would be much happier if you
confined the visit to:

- camera shots: after all. you objective
" to be seen there;
- no doortop interviews or
radio and tv interviews;
- a straight to camera statement
at the end of the visit.

Content?

Yes
no

Burman 13/12

Conversation with Philip Woodfield a.m. 13 December

1. Speculation growing about a visit - so tell no-one.

2. Order of events now to be :-

Aldergrove

Bangor (instead of Newtownards) shopping centre

Musgrave Park

Bessbrook Barracks - lunch in officers' mess but
arrangement to be made to meet OR's.

RUC Armagh (instead of Newry)

Aldergrove.

3. He agreed to provide draft message by Wednesday night - I said
won't be more than 3 to 4 minutes for whole appearance before
camera.