

FILE 1860000 RM



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

29 December, 1982

Dear Colonel O'Donovan,

I was particularly glad to be able to visit the military wing of Musgrave Park Hospital during my visit to Northern Ireland and to pass on in person my Christmas wishes to those who are still patients there. It is wonderful news that so many of those injured at Ballykelly have made sufficient progress to be able to leave hospital in time for Christmas, and it is a tribute to the skill and devotion of your staff that they have been able to do so. I am writing separately to the Deputy Matron to thank the nursing staff for the wonderful work they do, and I should be grateful if you would similarly pass on my thanks and admiration to your staff, with my husband's and my best wishes for a peaceful Christmas and happy New Year.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

Lt. Col. J.P.J. O'Donovan,

RM