

RESTRICTED



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Permanent Under Secretary

Sir Philip Woodfield KCB CBE

Lt Col A G Ross
Military Assistant to
Lieutenant General Sir Robert Richardson KCB CVO CBE
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6 January 1983

Dear Kevin,

OPERATION PISTON

Although I am sure that you have done so already, I thought it worth reminding you (and copy recipients) that all the papers relating the OPERATION PISTON can, with two exceptions, be down-graded to RESTRICTED.

The two exceptions are the papers entitled "Northern Ireland Political Affairs : Background Note" and "Security Situation : Background Note" which should remain CONFIDENTIAL.

All good wishes for the New Year

*Yours ever
David*

DAVID BROOKER
Private Secretary

Ireland

*A.S.C. 7
h.a.*

- cc
1. F E R Butler Esq ✓
Principal Private Secretary
No 10 Downing Street
 2. PS/Secretary of State, London and Belfast
 3. PS/Sir Philip Woodfield, Belfast
 4. PS/Sir Ewart Bell
 5. Mr Brennan, Deputy Secretary NIO(L)
 6. Mr Bourn, Deputy Secretary NIO(B).
 7. Mr Merifield, Under Secretary (Political Affairs and
Information Policy) NIO(B)
 8. Chief Constable
 9. Mr Gilliland, Director of Information Services NIO(B)
 10. Mr Blatherwick, NIO(B)
 11. Miss Owens, Stormont Castle