

EAMABU

bc P.C. 11



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

6 August, 1984

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND: VISIT TO DUBLIN

The Prime Minister has considered Sir Robert Armstrong's minute (Ref A084/2246) about the invitation to Mr. Prior to visit Dublin before he leaves office.

The Prime Minister agrees that Mr. Prior should go but wishes very careful attention paid to public handling of the visit. She has commented that it must not be called a farewell visit because other arrangements will still be in the air.

You will wish therefore to devise a line that both avoids reference to a farewell visit and does not give rise to speculation about some new initiative on Irish affairs growing out of the coincidence in time between Mr. Prior's visit to Dublin and the Taoiseach's visit to London. Once such a line has worked out, I suggest that you let me see it to ensure that the Prime Minister is content.

(C.D. Powell)

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Cabinet Office