

ce: NIO

## 10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

30 April 1985

The Prime Minister has asked me to reply to your letter of 27 March inviting her to open your new passenger terminal at the port of Larne.

I cannot commit the Prime Minister to accepting your invitation but she has asked me to say that, if she were to visit Northern Ireland during the coming months, she would be glad to consider including this ceremony as one of her engagements. I cannot go beyond that at present for reasons which I am sure that you will understand. You have stressed that there is considerable flexibility as far as a date is concerned, and if you are content to leave it on that basis for the time being we will come back to you in due course. If in the event it does not prove possible for the Prime Minister to accept this engagement she has asked me to say that she would be happy to commend it to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Mr Hurd.

(Mark Addison)

SMH.