



Prime Minister
My own view is that
foreign support for the
Agreement is anathema to
the Unionists (though it must
also be sobering for them).
Better not to have a reference in
Anglo-Irish Relations to European Council
conclusions.

(1)

Ref. A085/3066

MR POWELL

Mr Nally rang this afternoon with two points related to the forthcoming meeting of the European Council. ~~Agree to~~ Do you want a meeting with the Taoiseach?

2. First, the Irish Government are wondering whether it would be useful to propose that the communique issued at the end of the European Council should contain an approving reference by the Council to the Anglo-Irish Agreement. I said that we would certainly consider this suggestion. It might not be possible to reach a judgment on the effects of such a reference until nearer the time.

CDP
27/11
✓
ms

3. Secondly, Mr Nally said that the Taoiseach hoped that there would be time for the usual half-hour meeting between the Prime Minister and the Taoiseach in the margins of the European Council at Luxembourg. I said that I thought that the Prime Minister would probably hope to have a word with the Taoiseach, though it might be that, having met so recently, the meeting need not be a very long one. I suggested to Mr Nally that he should make contact with you when you both arrived in Luxembourg.

4. I am sending copies of this minute to the Private Secretaries to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

RTA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

27 November 1985