



CDP  
26/11/85

Prime Minister

If when you see Unionists leaders they return to the charge that they were kept wholly in the dark about the Anglo-Irish negotiations I hope that you might gently remind them of the facts. I do not have the dates handy, but more than once I went over the principles involved with them. You will remember that I asked for, received and used authority to do this within certain limits. I recall in particular a conversation on a privy councillor basis with Jim Molyneux and Enoch Powell, and (chancing my arm) a long private dinner at Hillsborough with Peter Robinson not long before I left. All three consistently objected to a consultative role for Dublin, but they cannot say that they were surprised by it. Details are of course another matter.

I am copying this minute to Tom King.

*Douglas Hurd.*

25<sup>th</sup> November 1985

