



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

Prime Minister

In moving the NTC meeting forward to accomodate the Sinn Fein meeting, there is now a clash with the Jenkins Press Conference on the Rate Limitation Bill which is published tomorrow at 10.30 am. Rather than let the Opposition have the media to themselves for a hour, the Jenkins prefers to send Lord Belberrin to deputise.

This should not be crucial, DoE are likely to be arguing not about the merits of the schemes as such, but about the need to take full account of the effect on local authority cooperation at a time when this is desperately needed.

- Agree the Jenkins stays with his Bill?
Yes ml AT 19/12