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cc Master.



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cc Sir P E
C MALLABY
CO.

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

19 December, 1985.

NORTHERN IRELAND

The Prime Minister and your Secretary of State had word about a number of outstanding points this evening.

Mr. King said that he had agreed with the Defence Secretary that forces available to the GOC Northern Ireland should be reinforced in early January to help deal with the increased PIRA threat near the border. This would need careful presentation.

Mr. King reaffirmed his intention to propose that the next meeting of the IGC should be held in London on 9 January. The following one would not be held until mid - or late - February. The Prime Minister urged that we use the occasion to put to the Irish Government a list of specific proposals on security cooperation. They must produce results on this front. They must also be encouraged to bring pressure to bear on John Hume to get the SDLP to take an active part in moves towards devolution.

Mr. King mentioned the difficulties the Northern Ireland Office faced in meeting the costs of the Intergovernmental Conference and the Secretariat.

The Prime Minister suggested that Mr. King should send a message to Mr. Barry urging the maximum vigilance by the Garda over the Christmas and New Year period.

The Prime Minister repeated her willingness to do a phone-in programme for Northern Ireland. I should be grateful if arrangements for this could be set in hand.

C.D. Powell

J.A. Daniell, Esq.,
Northern Ireland Office.

SECRET