



file VC

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

12 February 1986

Dear Mr. Hume,

Thank you for your letter of 5 February.

As you may know, I have recently invited the leaders of the Unionist parties to meet me. I should very much like to have a meeting with you also and shall ask my office to contact you to arrange a date. This will be an opportunity to discuss the various points raised in your letter.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Thatcher

John Hume, Esq., M.P.

VB

From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

CF pm



NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE
WHITEHALL
LONDON SW1A 2AZ

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street
London SW1

11 February 1986

Dear Charles,

Thank you for your letter of 5 February covering one from John Hume suggesting a meeting with the Prime Minister. It has always been envisaged that the Prime Minister would see Mr Hume after she had seen the Unionist leaders. We see no need for the Prime Minister's reply to do more than confirm that a meeting would be welcome. Substantive discussion of the points raised in Mr Hume's letter can await the meeting. I attach a draft reply.

*Yours Sincerely
Neil Ward*

N D Ward

DRAFT LETTER

ADDRESSEE'S REFERENCE

TO	ENCLOSURES	COPIES TO BE SENT TO
John Hume, Esq., MP		
(FULL POSTAL ADDRESS)		(FULL ADDRESSES, IF NECESSARY)

LETTER DRAFTED FOR SIGNATURE BY..... PRIME MINISTER
 (NAME OF SIGNATORY)

Thank you for your letter of 5 February.

As you know, I have recently invited the leaders of the Unionist parties to meet me, and I should very much like to have a ~~subsequent~~ meeting with you. I shall ask my office to contact you to arrange a date.

This will be an opportunity to discuss the various points raised in your letter.

[Signature]

[blind copy to Mr. Hume]

IRELAND
RELATIONS
PT 13

