



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

14 October 1985

Dear Mr. Paisley,

Thank you for your further joint letter of 30 September about the Anglo-Irish talks.

I can only repeat my assurance that, whatever emerges from our negotiations with the Irish Government, there is no threat whatsoever to the Union, nor any question of compromising the sovereign responsibility of the Government and Parliament of the United Kingdom for the affairs of Northern Ireland.

I am certainly willing to see you again and to listen to any proposals you may have for a new devolved administration that would be acceptable to the Northern Ireland community as a whole. Unfortunately, my attendance at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting and subsequently at the 40th Anniversary celebrations of the United Nations mean that this can only be towards the end of the month. My office will be in touch to propose a date.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

The Reverend Ian Paisley, M.P.

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Do you wish to keep?
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Yours
James Molyneaux

The Rt.Hon. James Molyneaux J.P., M.P.

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