

From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY



cc ~~_____~~
JH
NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE
STORMONT CASTLE
BELFAST BT4 3ST

Tel. Belfast (01232) 520700

John Holmes Esq
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1A 2AA

2 August 1996

Dear John,

Wu (NBPM)

W 6/8

NORTHERN IRELAND: INFORMATION NEWSHEET

The latest edition of the Northern Ireland Newsheet is attached.

yes. The events in mid-July have already shown signs of damaging confidence to some extent; there is also evidence of a fall in bookings and tourist office enquiries. Overall, however, the economy is so far holding up well but further difficulties in the coming weeks would lead to a further reduction in confidence. This, together with the deep impact of Drumcree on both Nationalist sentiment and community relations and with the current apprehension over the Apprentice Boys march on 10 August, suggests a certain caution in the use of the material.

Copies go to Sir Robert Fellowes, Private Secretaries of Members of the Cabinet, the Chief Whip's Office and Jan Polley (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely,
Robert Crawford

ROBERT CRAWFORD

SOFS/28608