

From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY



NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE
11 MILLBANK
LONDON
SW1P 4QE

[Handwritten signature]

✓ dc FA/APS
AC
COS

See letter out

R. 4

pm 15/7.

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

14 July 1997

Dear John

BLOODY SUNDAY

John Bruton wrote to the Prime Minister on 24 June about the assessment by the Irish Government of the "new evidence" which has become available about the events of 30 January 1972. This document has been forwarded to HMG via the Inter-Governmental Conference.

You asked for a draft letter for the Prime Minister to send to Mr Bruton's successor, Mr Ahern, acknowledging receipt of the document and, at a later stage, advice on how we should respond to the document. Northern Ireland Office officials are currently studying the document in depth.

I attach a draft letter for the Prime Minister to send to the Taoiseach expressing our thanks for the document and assuring him it will be given very careful consideration.

Yours
David Kyle
for **JOHN McKERVILL**