

RESTRICTED



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From the Private Secretary

16 May 1997

Dear David,

REQUEST FOR MEETING BY BLOODY SUNDAY FAMILIES

The Bloody Sunday Justice Campaign have requested a meeting with the Prime Minister on 29 May for a representative of the families of those killed on Bloody Sunday and two of those wounded (see enclosed fax). They will apparently come to London from Dublin, where they will have been briefed on the Irish Government's dossier of evidence.

I would be grateful for your rapid advice on how to handle this request. You should be aware of one complicating factor: President Clinton will be in London on 29 May. The Prime Minister will therefore have little or no free time that day, even if we wanted to offer a meeting (which I doubt). Nevertheless we will presumably want to avoid snubbing the families completely, not least in case they then try to involve the Americans. This points to our offering a meeting with your Secretary of State.

I am copying this letter to Dominick Chilcott in the Foreign Office.

Yours ever,

Philip

PHILIP BARTON

David Kyle, Esq.,
Northern Ireland Office.

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