

PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING WITH LOYALISTS PARTIES:
WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER

Line to Take

The Prime Minister met representatives of the Progressive Unionist Party and Ulster Democratic Party today, his second meeting with them.

The Prime Minister again emphasised the importance of the Loyalist ceasefire. He told the parties that the restraint of the Loyalist paramilitaries, in the face of IRA violence, had earned them credit in Northern Ireland, Great Britain and beyond.

The Prime Minister commended the constructive role the PUP and UDP were playing in the political talks. He stressed the Government's wish for early progress in the talks, and its determination to do all possible to bring it about.

The Prime Minister reaffirmed that Northern Ireland's constitutional status would be determined by the consent of the people there.