



10 DOWNING STREET

29 December, 1982

THE PRIME MINISTER

Dear Mr. Johnstone,

I am writing to thank you most warmly for receiving me at Gough Barracks during my visit to Armagh on Wednesday, and to express my gratitude to you and Superintendent Hodgett for the arrangements made for my visit.

To meet so many members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary who have themselves been involved in terrorist incidents, and the wives of those who have been its victims, brings vividly home the reality of the pain and damage inflicted on the community by a few evil men. The wonderful work which the Royal Ulster Constabulary do in the essential task of countering the men of violence has my unstinted admiration. Perhaps through you I may also thank all the other members of the RUC who were involved in the security arrangements for the visit.

My husband's and my thoughts are with you all, and we send you our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

M. Johnstone, Esq., M.B.E.,

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

RW