

SECRET



Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

CABINET OFFICE,
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AS

Tel No: 233 3299
7471

23 December 1985

Richard Mottram Esq
Private Secretary to the
Secretary of State for Defence
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
LONDON
SW1

NSPM

Dear Richard,

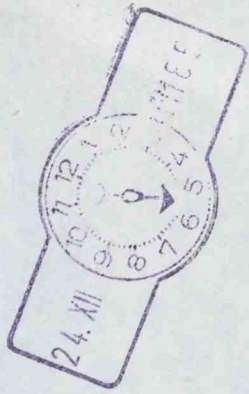
INFANTRY REINFORCEMENTS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

The Chancellor of the Duchy has seen your Secretary of State's minute of 20 December to the Prime Minister. He shares the Prime Minister's concern over the presentational impact of this proposal. While accepting the judgement of GOC Northern Ireland on the need for reinforcement, the Chancellor wonders whether the temporary nature of the reinforcement could allow it to be disguised, for example by overlapping the dates for the change-over of existing units.

I am copying this letter to Charles Powell (No 10), Private Secretaries to other members of OD(I) and to Michael Stark in the Cabinet Office.

Yours Sincerely,
A. Lansley

ANDREW LANSLEY
Private Secretary



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