



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

17 June 1980

Dear Sir Maurice

As you leave Northern Ireland for the last time as Security Co-ordinator, I wish to send you on behalf of my colleagues and myself our warmest thanks for what you have done. When I asked you to take on this burden last September, we were deeply troubled by the security situation in Northern Ireland and concerned to make our operations more effective. All of us - and you perhaps more than any - are aware of how much there is still to be done, but I know from Francis Pym and Humphrey Atkins how effectively you have established a co-ordinated security team in the Province, boosted their morale, and achieved significant progress.

I know something of what this has cost you by way of days and weeks on end overseeing the Planning Staff in Stormont. I trust that you will now enjoy to the full a second retirement richly earned.

Yours sincerely  
Margaret Thatcher

Sir Maurice Oldfield, KCMG, CBE.