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Prime Minister

A.J.C. 8/11

MR. COLES

MS

I enclose my copy, for return please, of a Report by the Security Service on the Soviet Union's attitude towards the Provisional Irish Republican Army.

2. The Prime Minister may like to glance at it.

3. The conclusion is that the main Soviet interest in the PIRA is one of propaganda; there is no evidence that the Soviet Union finances, arms, or influences Irish Army extremist groups. The Provisionals welcome Soviet Press interest in their activities but are wary of closer dealings with the Soviet Union.

RA

Robert Armstrong

Sir Robert Armstrong

Thank you.

A.J.C. 11/1

8th January 1982

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