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PERSONAL

1st September, 1970.

Dear Prime Minister,

The attached cuttings are no more than the latest crop of public criticism which is made of me in the newspapers almost every day.

I hope that this unreasonable denigration has no effect either on my resolution or upon my efforts, but I have to tell you that the difficulties of fulfilling my perplexing and demanding duties have never been greater than they are at present.

It seems to me that unless the Government are prepared to express their own view publicly upon these sustained attacks that ultimately they will suffer far more grievous than I. Further official silence could rightly be taken as tacit agreement with the critics. Now that the London papers are becoming so frequent in their forecasts of an ignominious departure I consider that it is incumbent upon the Northern Ireland Government to make their position plain.

It is unreasonable that my friends in London should read of these one-sided attacks upon my reputation in the national papers and have to rely exclusively upon their personal opinion of me in forming a judgment.

*Sincerely
R. G.*

Major The Right Hon. J.D. Chichester-Clark, D.L., M.P.,
Prime Minister of Northern Ireland,
Stormont Castle,
BELFAST.