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Dear Ken,

I have just been speaking to Miss Stuart but I think I should confirm the points made to her:

1. We feel that it would be better if the estimated time of arrival at the border was 11.45 a.m. if this is possible.

2. Miss Stuart will let me know if anyone else will be coming as well as the driver.

3. The P.M. would be grateful if the words "such as tourism" could be left out of the statement as he has not mentioned the meeting to any of his colleagues so far and probably only a couple of senior Ministers will be told of it before Thursday.

4. The P.M. sympathises with your wish to make the announcement on the previous evening but feels very strongly that it should be left until 1 p.m. on Thursday so that there will be no incitement to extremists of any ilk to make public protests.

5. The Inspector General of the R.U.C. will be informed tomorrow so that if any Garda Officers wish to speak to him about any arrangements they can do so.

6. Our Customs post will be informed on Thursday morning and I hope to be there to meet the Taoiseach.

Please excuse the untidy writing but my confidential Typist is having a day's leave and I did not wish to use any other.

Yours sincerely,

Jim.
Mr. Malley phoned at 4.50 this evening. He gave advance notice of the following points which are included in a letter he has written:

(a) Time of arrival at the Border might be 11.45 a.m.
(b) Capt. O'Neill is still in favour of the press announcement being held until 1 p.m.
(c) In regard to meal arrangements, they want to know will anyone else accompany the party besides the driver (e.g. detective?).