

NATIONAL ARCHIVES**IRELAND**

Reference Code:	2000/5/38
Title:	Summary of points for discussion with the British Authorities on the 1 st August 1969
Creation Date(s):	1969
Level of description:	Item
Extent and medium:	2 pages
Creator(s):	Department of Foreign Affairs
Access Conditions:	Open
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ConfidentialSummary of Points for Discussion with the British authorities
on the 1st August 1969I. IMMEDIATE SITUATION IN DERRY

- Grave concern at possibility of widespread disorder and bloodshed at Apprentice Boys' Parade in Derry on 12th August
- this year 73 bands instead of the usual 17 or so
- what is their assessment of the situation
- grave danger situation will get out of control
- the Parade should be banned and at least the British should take all possible action in advance to ensure no bloodshed

II. QUESTION OF REFORM

- we welcome the O'Neill 5-point programme and the promise of One-Man One-Vote
- also the Chichester-Clarke commitment to implement that programme
- we consider that it must be speeded up and added to as follows:-

(i) Local Government reform

- we welcome the second Blue Paper "Reshaping of Local Government" published July 1969
- vital electoral boundaries be non-gerrymandered
- composition of independent statutory commission to review wards and boundaries must not only be impartial but must be seen to be so
- programme for reforms must be speeded up considerably to diffuse situation

(ii) Citizens' Grievances

- we welcome appointment of Stormont "ombudsman" and setting up of machinery to consider grievances outside his province
- best machinery would be extend ombudsman functions to include local government, housing and employment
- Ministry of Development proposals for fair housing allocation (Group plus Points system) should be backed up by right of appeal e.g. to ombudsman and strict compliance by local authorities with Ministry system

(iii) Non-Discrimination in Employment

- Stormont must ensure non-discriminatory practices in employment involving official funds, civil service, local government etc.
- fir employment legislation should be considered

(iv) Special Powers and "B Specials"

- the more repulsive features of the Special Powers legislation and regulations in conflict with European Convention on Human Rights must be abolished
- "B Specials" force is partisan and provocative
- we protested to London last February about their recruitment
- more were mobilised in April
- allegations they are disobeying instructions and carrying firearms

(v) British troops

- to increase the numbers may only add to the tension unless there is a serious breakdown of law and order

(vi) Responsibility of Westminster

- Westminster should exercise their supreme authority under Section 75 of Govt. of Ireland Act, 1920, to speed up reform
- pressure could be applied by threat to reduce subsidies (£100 million a year) and supporting liberal reforms on both sides
- we dont go so far as to advocate direct rule from Westminster.

(vii) Britain must act if situation is not to get out of hand in August and in months to come

- discrimination in every form must be ended and peace and harmony restored
- we will follow developments closely
- if situation deteriorates seriously we may be unable to resist pressure to take action in UN and elsewhere to ensure that justice and equality are established in the North