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Title: Letter from E Gallagher, Department of External Affairs, to Ronan Ó Foghlú, Department of the Taoiseach, reporting a meeting between Minister for External Affairs Patrick Hillery and British Foreign Secretary Alec Douglas-Home regarding the Northern Ireland situation.

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ROINN GNÓTHAÍ EACHTRACHA

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH 2.

30th June, 1970.

Dear Ó Foghlú

I have not much detail on the meeting yesterday between the Minister and Sir Alec Douglas Home. The Ambassador in London telephoned me last night to say that the Minister was "highly delighted" with his visit. The Minister informed Sir Alec of the Government's view about the underlying causes of present unrest in the North - as set out in today's letter from the PSM here to Mr. O'Dowd. The Minister also put in a phrase to the effect that we have not changed our views as to the basic root cause of the whole situation. The Minister also emphasized the need to support moderate leadership in the minority at the present time.

Apparently all these remarks were listened to attentively and Sir Alec promised to inform Mr. Maudling immediately of what the Minister said.

Sir Alec assured the Minister that the Conservative Government policy in relation to reforms in the North was not in the least different from the policy of the previous Government.

Yours sincerely

E. Gallagher

Mr. Ronan Ó Foghlú
Dept. of the Taoiseach