

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

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VISIT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND
TO DUBLIN, 28/29 MAY

The subjects we would propose for discussion between Mr Rees and the Ministers for Justice and Foreign Affairs are:-

(a) Review of progress made with security cooperation

This could include the broad range of subjects as covered in Mr Rees' previous meetings with Mr Cooney, such as RUC/Garda border cooperation, control of vehicles on the border, security of the railway, overflights and explosives.

(b) Review of the political situation in Northern Ireland and possible future developments

Mr Rees envisages talking generally about how he sees the situation and would welcome views on how it is seen at present from Dublin.

2. We would like to know whether these proposals are acceptable and whether the Department of Justice and Department of Foreign Affairs have any other subjects they would wish to raise.

BRITISH EMBASSY
DUBLIN

16 May 1976

5300G ESTR E1
HIBERNIA LDN

SERIAL NO 219

SECRET CODE

IMMEDIATE

=====

TO HQ FROM LDN

FOR SWIFT FROM CAMPBELL

YOUR C 148

I AM REPLYING ON THIS SINCE AMBASSADOR IS ENGAGED THIS MORNING.
NIO (JOHN BOURN) INFORMS ME REES WOULD LIKE TO COVER THE FOLLOWING
GROUND ON FRIDAY:

- GENERAL POLITICAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL SITUATION
=====

REES WILL OUTLINE HOW HE SEES THINGS AT THE MOMENT AND FOR THE
PERIOD IMMEDIATELY AHEAD, INCLUDING THE RENEWAL IN JULY OF DIRECT
RULE ARRANGEMENTS.

- SECURITY SITUATION
=====

(A) HE WILL OUTLINE HOW WORK HAS GONE IN THE INTERMINISTERIAL
COMMITTEE ON PRIMACY OF THE POLICE AND THE LINES OF DEVELOPMENT
FORESEEN AT THIS STAGE. HE WILL CORRECT "OFF-BEAM" RECENT
PRESS SPECULATION ON WITHDRAWAL MOVES ETC. AND EXPLAIN WHAT HE
IS TRYING TO ACHIEVE IN THE SECURITY FIELD. HE HOPES THAT THIS
WILL BE SUCH AS TO HAVE OUR BACKING.

(B) USUAL RUN-OVER OF VARIOUS ASPECTS OF SECURITY COOPERATION
INCLUDING RUC/GARDA COOPERATION.

BOURN THINKS IT UNLIKELY THAT REES WILL WANT TO GO INTO ANY DETAIL
ON SAS PROBLEM, LEAVING THIS TO EXISTING "STAFF" DISCUSSIONS.
HE WILL PROBABLY LIMIT HIMSELF TO A GENERAL EXPRESSION OF BXXXXXXX
CONCERN. THEY RECOGNISE LIMITS OF DISCUSSION ON THIS GIVEN
JUDICIAL DIMENSION.

I UNDERSTAND REES WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY CUBION AND HARDING
AND THAT THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR WILL BE CALLING IN PROBABLY
TODAY TO OUTLINE PROPOSED FIELD OF DISCUSSION.

END

JC 26/5/76

TIME: 11.50

5300G ESTR E1
HIBERNIA LDN