

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

IRELAND



Reference Code:	2011/39/1828
Creation Date(s):	4 September 1981
Extent and medium:	1 page
Creator(s):	Department of Foreign Affairs
Access Conditions:	Open
Copyright:	National Archives, Ireland. May only be reproduced with the written permission of the Director of the National Archives.

1. ~~Mr. Ueliger~~^{4/9}
To see also.
2. ~~Mr. Murphy~~ ~~Mr. Burke~~

4 September 1981

(RM) 4.9.81

To see pl.

RM 4/9/81

Mr. Jim Sharkey
Counsellor
Washington

Dear Jim,

You enquired back in June whether we knew anything about reports which Senator Kennedy's office had heard to the effect that Britain had recently purchased helicopter gunships. The Senator's office wanted to know if there was any question of their being used in Northern Ireland.

The Embassy at London made informal enquiries of the FCO and have now been told that the British Ministry of Defence is buying chinook helicopters from the United States. The FCO added that ~~these~~ could not at all be regarded as helicopter gunships, but are large load-carrying helicopters intended for moving stores and equipment and sometimes passengers. They said that there is no present intention of using them in Northern Ireland.

Yours sincerely,



Ronan Murphy