

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

IRELAND



Reference Code:	2014/32/1829
Creation Date(s):	20 November 1984
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.

*cid No. Donovan
2 pa 28/9/3.*

MARITA ANN

Mr Davenport,

John Daly of the Department of Defence rang today about the trial of the people charged with gun-running on the Marita Ann. The trial will take place next Tuesday, 27 November. One of the crucial issues which will have to be proved is that the arrest took place within Irish territorial waters. According to the relevant statutory instrument, Admiralty Charts prove themselves. In this case they intend to use Hydrography Chart 2423. What is necessary, according to the Senior Council, is that a British Admiralty expert be there to prove that this chart is a British Admiralty Chart.

Mr Daly, therefore, asked that we approach the British Authorities and request them to provide an expert who would be able to come over next Monday to make a statement for the Chief State Solicitor, and attend the trial on Tuesday and possibly subsequent days. The expenses would, of course, be paid for by the DPP.

I suggested that we approach the British Authorities to get their formal agreement to provide such an expert and that they also provide us with a name of someone who the Chief State Solicitor could contact to discuss the precise arrangements. Mr Daly agreed to this. He further remarked that it was of major importance that this should be proved: otherwise the States case would collapse.



Alan Ford

20 November, 1984