

An Chartlann Náisiúnta National Archives

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24.3.87

TO HQ FROM BELFAST

LOGUE FUNERAL

FOR O TUATHAIL FROM LILLIS

WE HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE BRITISH ABOUT THE SECURITY PRESENCE AT THE LOGUE FUNERAL TODAY. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT TURKINGTON IS IN CHARGE IN DERRY AND THAT WHILE HE IS DETERMINED TO PREVENT THE APPEARANCE OF ANY PARAMILITARY TRAPPINGS HE IS NONETHELESS ANXIOUS TO HANDLE THE FUNERAL IN AS SENSITIVE A MANNER AS POSSIBLE. WE PARTICULARLY INSISTED THAT OUR FLAG SHOULD NOT BE TREATED AS A POLITICAL FOOTBALL.

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THERE HAS BEEN TROUBLE AT THE HOME. AS THE COFFIN WAS BEING REMOVED FROM LOGUE'S HOUSE, THERE WERE PARAMILITARY TRAPPINGS AND KNOWN ' PARAMILITARIES WERE PRESENT. THE ISSUE WAS RESOLVED BY BISHOP EDWARD DALY WHO ARRIVED AT THE SCENE. THE CORTEGE LEFT LOGUE'S HOUSE AT APPROXIMATELY 11.40. THE BRITISH CLAIM THE POLICE ARE BEING TAUNTED ABOUT THE KILLINGS LAST NIGHT.

WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THERE ARE 1700 PEOPLE AT THE FUNERAL AND BRITISH ARE CONCERNED THAT THERE MAY BE DIFFICULTIES. THE AUTHORITIES FEAR A BOME BLITZ THROUGHOUT THE DAY IN DERRY.