



HOME OFFICE
WHITEHALL · S.W.1

10th June, 1969.

Dear Hill,

april?
I spoke to you some time ago about the case of Sam Devenny of Londonderry who claimed to have been beaten up by members of the R.U.C. in January. I have now managed to obtain a copy of the letter in which this allegation was made and which I am enclosing for information.

Following our telephone conversation I passed on to the Home Office, who in turn related to the Foreign Office, the information that the police had already started an investigation into the allegation; that this was being conducted by a senior police officer from outside the Londonderry area; and that I would advise them of the outcome of the investigation. However, it seems now that the Foreign Office in transmitting this information to the British Mission in New York rather gave the impression that "background and guidance" would be provided by the Home Office for this case. The Home Office were thus under the obligation to advise the Foreign Office of the outcome and have asked for up to date information. The Home Office appreciate that the Mission should not be encouraged to volunteer information about the case and so stir things up again. They will therefore be careful to treat the matter delicately.

I should be grateful therefore if you could advise me of developments and let me have any information about the case which can be passed on to the Home Office and the Foreign Office. I should perhaps mention that the representatives of the British Mission in New York, when accepting the letter which they undertook to pass to Lord Carradon, pointed out that the allegations in the letter were quite unacceptable to the British Government.

Incidentally, I understand that the United Ireland Publicity Committee in another letter in which they vigorously protested about the Public Order Bill threatened more hostile demonstrations against the British Government Offices and B.O.A.C. offices in New York if a satisfactory acknowledgment to the present letter was not received.

Yours sincerely,

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