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CONCLUSIONS of Meeting
held at Stormont Castle on Wednesday
2 May 1973, at 11.00 am

PRESENT

The Rt Hon William Whitelaw MP
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

Mr David Howell MP	GOC
Mr William van Straubenzee MP	Chief Constable
Mr Frank Cooper	Mr M K Harris, Ministry of Home Affairs
Sir David Holden	Mr L V D Calvert, Ministry of Development (for item 4)
Sir Harold Black	Mr C Macmahon, AG's Dept
Mr K P Bloomfield	
Mr J T A Howard-Drake	
Mr F A Rowley	
Mr M Oatley	Mr T C Platt
Mr T M Roberts	MA to GOC

Secretariat

Mr D C Gowdy

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1. SECURITY REVIEW

The GOC reviewed the events of the 48 hours since the previous meeting; the security forces had made some important arms finds and arrests - all the officers of the Ardoyne IRA (with the exception of the female Finance Officer, who had been released) were now in custody; a murder victim had been found on the outskirts of Belfast; there had been a murder attempt near Aughnacloy; a number of bombings had occurred.

2. EXTRADITION OF UDA MEMBER

The Secretary of State referred to the impending extradition of a member of the UDA to face a double murder charge in the Republic of Ireland and said that there could be no interference with the course of justice; the Attorney-General would make a statement to this effect.

3. LONDONDERRY INQUESTS

Despite the suggestion that the inquests could be curtailed by Regulation under the Coroners Act, the Secretary of State decided that the inquests should be held under the normal procedure, but that they should be delayed until after the elections.

4. DEMOLITION OF DERELICT PROPERTY IN LOWER FALLS

The Secretary of State referred to the problem of the requisition of properties mentioned in the GOC's letter of 24 April and asked Sir Harold Black to set up a working group, with Army, Police and Ministry of Development representation, to resolve the problem as quickly as possible.

5. GROSVENOR ROAD RAMPS

On the advice of the GOC, the Secretary of State decided not to press the proposal to build ramps in the Grosvenor Road.

D C GOWDY
2 May 1973

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