

Sir Ewart Bell KCB
Stormont Castle
Belfast

cc: Dr Quigley CB
Mr Gilliland CBE
Mr Elliott - Dept of Envir.

For Information

i SIR NORMAN STRONGE MEMORIAL

It is proposed to inscribe the marble wall beneath the clock in the old Commons Members' Lobby as follows:

IN MEMORY OF
CAPTAIN THE RIGHT HON SIR NORMAN STRONGE BT MC HML
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR MID ARMAGH 1938-69
SPEAKER HOUSE OF COMMONS 1945-69
SHOT WITH HIS SON JAMES BY TERRORISTS ON 21 JANUARY 1981

PLACED HERE BY PARLIAMENTARY COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS

The layout was designed by Mr Jack Elliott, Chief Architect, Works Division DOE, to whom I am also grateful for advice about certain phraseology.

The wording has the approval of the family although a daughter (Mrs T J A Kingan) remarked to Lord Moyola who consulted her last week about this version, that the reference to her brother James made him appear more of a small boy than the MP who had inherited the seat from his father.

I discussed the point with Lord Moyola who had asked me to consider it. I informed him that the suggested change could bring one into the realm of possible memorials to other murdered Stormont Members. Further elaboration about James could be construed in this light. The sole purpose of the exercise was to commemorate Sir Norman.

Lord Moyola seemed content with this argument and I accordingly intend to have the work started in the near future, certainly before 20 October. Because of various commitments abroad by the Stronge connection, it will not be possible to have an unveiling ceremony before 1 December.

ii PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS ANNIVERSARY

The Building was formally opened on 16 November 1932 by the then Prince of Wales. The First Session was held in the new Building on 22 October 1932. It is conceivable that the 50th anniversary of these events may wish to be marked in some way.

iii SSAFA BALL

This event will take place in Parliament Buildings on Friday 15 October 1982 and not on October 22 as previously planned. I understand that it was felt in Army HQ Lisburn that the Ball should be held before the election date. I was informed of this change by the organisers yesterday.

J A D KENNEDY

2 September 1982