



PRIVATE OFFICE
 PUS
 MR. BOURN
 MR. MERIFIELD
 MR. GILLILAND
 1. Sir EWART BELL
 MR. BUXTON
 MR. COULSON
 MR. REEVE
 LIAISON x 2
 RUC - 5 SEP 1984

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6/9

PP NIO (L)

GRS280

CONFIDENTIAL

FM DUBLIN 051235Z SEPT 84
 TO PRIORITY NIO (B)
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 20 OF 5 SEPTEMBER 1984
 AND TO PRIORITY: FCO NIO (L)

Rec'd on.....

2. SEC 1

NEW VEHICLE CHECK POINT ON NEWRY/DUNDALK ROAD.

1. BURKE AND O'DONOVAN (DFA ANGLO-IRISH DIVISION) HAVE MADE REPRESENTATIONS TO HOLT ABOUT A NEW VCP BEING BUILT AT KILLEEN, ONE FIFTH OF A MILE ON THE NORTHERN SIDE OF THE BORDER.
2. THEY SAY THAT BOTH THE GARDA AND IRISH ARMY (WHO ARE SAID TO HAVE INDEPENDENTLY REACHED THE SAME CONCLUSION) ARE CONCERNED THAT THE NEW CHECK POINT'S POSITION IS UNSUITABLE BECAUSE IT IS OVERLOOKED BY HILLS ON THE EDENTUBBER SIDE, AND IS LIKELY TO BE USED AS A TARGET BY GUNMEN BOTH IN THESE HILLS AND ON THE SOUTHERN SIDE OF THE BORDER. INDEED, THEY FEEL IT IS POSITIVELY CONVENIENT FOR SUCH A PURPOSE. A LOCAL FAMILY IS SAID TO HAVE MOVED OUT OF THEIR NEARBY HOUSE BECAUSE OF THIS DANGER. APPARENTLY THE GARDA HAVE DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH THE RUC, BUT HAVE BEEN GIVEN NO ARGUMENTS IN FAVOUR OF THE VCP'S POSITION.
3. THE GARDA ALSO CONSIDER THAT THE CHECK POINT WILL CREATE FRUSTRATION IN THE DISTRICT SINCE THE NEW CONSTRUCTION MEANS THERE WILL NOW BE TWO SUCH POINTS VERY CLOSE TOGETHER.
4. THE DFA SAID THEY HAD BEEN ASKED TO MAKE THESE REPRESENTATIONS BECAUSE 'IT SEEMED TO BE A PROBLEM THAT THE LOCAL PEOPLE COULD DO NOTHING ABOUT'.
5. GRATEFUL TO KNOW WHAT REPLY TO GIVE TO THE IRISH.

GOODISON

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PP DUBLIN

RR FCO
RR NIO LONDON

GPS 250

CYPHER CAT A

FM NIO BELFAST 061650Z

SELL



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LIAISON x 2
RUC

101/9

110 SEP 1984

Rec'd on.....

CONFIDENTIAL

TO PRIORITY DUBLIN TELNO 009 OF 6 SEPTEMBER.
INFO ROUTINE FCO, NIO LONDON

NEW VEHICLE CHECK POINT ON NEWRY/DUNDALK ROAD

1. YOUR TEL NO 20 OF 5 SEPT REFERS.
2. NO FINAL DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN ON THE NEED FOR OR SITE OF A VCP ON THE NEWRY/DUNDALK ROAD. THE HEIGHTENED THREAT, DEMONSTRATED BY THE CAR BOMB IN NEWRY ON 4 SEPT, MAKES IT POSSIBLE THAT A VCP - PERHAPS A TEMPORARY ONE - MAY BE NEEDED. A DECISION IS EXPECTED NEXT WEEK.
3. THE KILLEEN SITE IS LIKELY TO BE THE MOST FAVOURED ONE. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE CONSIDERABLE OPERATIONAL DISADVANTAGES TO THIS LOCATION, ITS PROXIMITY TO THE BORDER MINIMISES THE PROSPECT TO TERRORISTS BEING ABLE TO BY-PASS IT, WHICH IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS FOR A VCP. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE GARDA HAVE BEEN CUNSLUTED AND RAISED NO OBJECTIONS WITH THE RUC.
4. YOU MAY WISH TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS TO THE DFA:
 - A: NO FINAL DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN ON WHETHER A CHECK POINT IS NECESSARY, ALTHOUGH THIS WEEK'S CAR BOMB IN NEWRY SUGGESTS THAT IT IS.
 - B: IF A VCP IS NEEDED, THEN THE VIEWS OF THE DFA AND THOSE OF LOCAL INHABITANTS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN DECIDING ON THE SITE. ALTHOUGH OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS APPEAR TO FAVOUR THE KILLEEN SITE, THE DRAWBACKS MENTIONED BY MESSERS BURKE AND O'DONOVAN MAY RULE IT OUT.
 - C: WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THEIR CONCERN, AND WOULD WISH TO EXPRESS SATISFACTION THAT GARDA/RUC LINKS APPEAR TO BE FUNCTIONING CORRECTLY. WE ARE SURE THAT THE RUC WILL KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE GARDA ON THIS ISSUE.

BOURN

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