

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

7 May 1969 to 18 June 1970

- 7 May 1969
HONIP(69) 1
Paragraph 2
- Major Chichester-Clark in the Northern Ireland House of Commons declares his commitment to the policies of Captain O'Neill's administration, including the decision on the local government franchise.
- 12 May 1969
HONIP(69) 2
Paragraph 10
- Statement by Major Chichester-Clark at a meeting of Fermanagh Unionists on local government franchise.
- 15 May 1969
HONIP(69) 2
Paragraph 1
- Statement by the Prime Minister of Northern Ireland at Stormont that in addition to the appointment of a Parliamentary Commissioner, the Government of Northern Ireland has decided to set up machinery to consider citizens' grievances against public bodies or authorities outside the field of central government.
- 20 May 1969
HONIP(69) 3
Paragraph 4
- Announcement by the Minister of Home Affairs that legislation would be introduced to postpone until 1971 the local government elections.
- 21 May 1969
HONIP(69) 3
Paragraph 1
- Meeting between the Prime Minister and Major Chichester-Clark.

11 June 1969
HCNIP(69) 5
Paragraph 15

Organised motorcade by the Fermanagh Branch of the Civil Rights Association to Stormont to protest about discrimination and gerrymandering by Fermanagh County Council.

13 June 1969
HCNIP(69) 6
Paragraph 3

Sit down staged by 200 supporters of the Civil Rights Movement in Enniskillen.

15 June 1969
HCNIP(69) 6
Paragraph 4

The Irish Republican Party hold two meetings and a march in London to commemorate the death of Wolfe Tone.

17 June 1969
HCNIP(69) 7
Paragraph 3

Resumed meeting between the Prime Minister and Major Chichester-Clark.

22 June 1969
HCNIP(69) 7
Paragraph 1

Rally in Trafalgar Square organised by the London Branch of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association.

28 June 1969
HCNIP(69) 8
Paragraph 2 & 3

Rally in Strabane by the civil rights movement. An Orange parade was held in Dungiven.

5 July 1969
HCNIP(69) 9
Paragraph 1

Civil rights march in Newry.

12-13 July 1969
HCNIP(69) 11
Paragraph 1

Intermittent rioting and violence. Main centres of violence are Dungiven and Londonderry.

- 14-15 July 1969 Violence resumes in Londonderry. Also rioting in Belfast,
HONIP(69) 12 but on a less serious scale than during the previous weekend.
Paragraph 1
- 17 July 1969 Petrol bomb thrown at house of former Minister of Home Affairs
HONIP(69) 12 Mr William Craig. Sit in at the Ulster Office in London.
Paragraphs 5 & 8
- 18 July 1969 Funeral of Mr Francis McCloskey in Dangiven.
HONIP(69) 12
Paragraph 2
- 20 July 1969 Funeral of Mr Sam Devenny.
HONIP(69) 12
Paragraph 2 Irish Civil Rights Solidarity Campaign organised a rally in
Hyde Park followed by a march to the Ulster Office.
- 25 July 1969 Meeting held by the People's Democracy in Enniskillen to
HONIP(69) 13 protest against the decision by the Minister of Home Affairs
Paragraph 3 to ban the march in collaboration with the Civil Rights
Association on 19 July.
- HONIP(69) 13 Demonstration by the Irish Civil Rights Solidarity Campaign
Paragraph 7 in protest against the deaths of Mr McCloskey and Mr Devenny.
- 26 July 1969 People's Democracy march from Newtown-butler to Enniskillen.
HONIP (69) 13
Paragraph 1

- 1 August 1969 The London Irish Civil Rights Solidarity Campaign picket the
HONIP(69) 14 Ulster Office.
Paragraph 11
- 2, 3 & 4 August 1969 Serious riots in Belfast.
HONIP(69) 14
Paragraph 1
- 8 August 1969 Meeting between the Home Secretary and the Prime Minister of
HONIP(69) 15 Northern Ireland. Demonstration outside the Home Office.
Paragraph 9
- 12 August 1969 Traditional parade of the Apprentice Boys in Londonderry.
HONIP(69) 15 Small demonstration outside the Ulster Office.
Paragraph 1
- 12, 13 & 14 Rioting in Bogside area of Londonderry.
August 1969
HONIP(69) 16
Paragraph 4
- 14 August 1969 Parliament of Northern Ireland is recalled. Troops take
HONIP(69) 16 up positions around the Bogside.
Paragraph 20
- 19 August 1969 Declaration on relations between the United Kingdom Government
HONIP(69) 16 and the Northern Ireland Government.
Paragraph 1

- 24 August 1969 Two large demonstrations on behalf of the Irish civil rights
HCNIP(69) 17 movements.
Paragraph 5
- 27 August 1969 Home Secretary visits Northern Ireland for three days.
HONIP(69) 17
Paragraph 6
- 29 August 1969 Text of communique issued at the end of the Home Secretary's
HONIP(69) 18 visit to Northern Ireland.
Paragraph 1
- 324 September 1969 Tension rises in Belfast. Fresh barricades are erected in
HONIP(69) 19 various parts of the city.
Paragraph 1
- 9 September 1969 Prime Minister of Northern Ireland announces the establishment
HONIP(69) 19 of a peace line between the Falls and Shankill Roads.
Paragraph 7
- HONIP(69) 20 Announcement by Mr Porter, the Minister of Home Affairs, on
Paragraph 8 the setting up of a Public Protection Authority.
- 22 September 1969 A start is made in dismantling the barricades which surround
HONIP(69) 21 the Bogside.
Paragraph 2
- 24 September 1969 Violence returns to Londonderry. Roman Catholics and Protestant
HONIP(69) 22 youths clash in a Protestant area.
Paragraph 5

27 September 1969 Mr William Craig, the former Minister of Home Affairs, criticises
HONIP(69) 22
Paragraph 21 the existence of the "Peace Line".

30 September 1969 Minister of Home Affairs extends for a further three months
HONIP(69) 22
Paragraph 15 the ban on demonstrations and processions.

2 October 1969 Mr Paisley protests to Major Chichester-Clark at the ban on
HONIP(69) 23
Paragraph 24 by-elections.

4 October 1969 Troops use CS gas to disperse a mixed Protestant and Roman
HONIP(69) 23
Paragraph 1 Catholic crowd.

5 October 1969 Further trouble in East Belfast. A number of Orange men
HONIP(69) 23
Paragraph 2 attempt to defy the ban on processions.

8 to 13 The Home Secretary accompanied by Lord Stonham visits Northern
October 1969
HONIP(69) 24 Ireland.
Paragraph 1

10 October 1969 Communique is issued following the Home Secretary's discussions
HONIP(69) 24
Paragraph 1 with the Northern Ireland Government.

- 11 October 1969 250 Protestant women and children block main roads in East
HONIP(69) 24
Paragraph 6 Belfast, demonstrating against the disarming of the RUC.
- 12 October 1969 Announcement of the formation of a new local reserve force
HONIP(69) 24
Paragraph 25 as a replacement for the Ulster Special Constabulary.
- 13 October 1969 Debate in the House of Commons on Northern Ireland.
HONIP(69) 24
Paragraph 17
- 15 October 1969 Debate in the House of Lords on Northern Ireland.
HONIP(69) 24
Paragraph 18
- 16 October 1969 Minister of Home Affairs makes an Order requiring the closure
HONIP(69) 25
Paragraph 5 of all public houses in Belfast at 7.00 p.m. on 17 and 18 October.
- 17 October 1969 Police patrols resume in the Bogside area of Londonderry and
HONIP(69) 25
Paragraph 3 in the Falls Road area of Belfast

- 19 October 1969 Attempt is made to blow up a power station at Ballyshannon,
HONIP(69) 25
Paragraph 20 Co. Donegal.
- 25 October 1969 Protest in the Shankill Road against the disbandment of the
HONIP(69) 26
Paragraph 1 Ulster Special Constabulary.
- 31 October 1969 Wolfe Tone memorial in Co. Kildare badly damaged by an explosion.
HONIP(69) 27
Paragraph 14
- 1 November 1969 Protest against the acceptance of the recommendations of the
HONIP(69) 27
Paragraph 1 Hunt Committee in Londonderry.
- 11 November 1969 The first day when members of the RUC go on duty without arms.
HONIP(69) 28
Paragraph 5
- 17 November 1969 Two petrol bombs thrown across the peace line at Bombay Street,
HONIP(69) 29
Paragraph 1 Belfast.
- 19 November 1969 Two minor incidents in which stones were thrown at the police
HONIP(69) 29
Paragraph 1 in Belfast.
- 27 November 1969 A grenade is thrown into a house belonging to a Roman
HONIP(69) 31
Paragraph 1 Catholic family.

- 27 & 28
November 1969
HONIP(69) 31
Paragraph 4 Joint military and police night patrols are introduced in the
Belfast enclaves.
- 29 November 1969
HONIP(69) 31
Paragraph 3 The People's Democracy mount pickets throughout the Province in
protest against the Special Powers Acts.
- 2 December 1969
HONIP(69) 31
Paragraph 8 Appointment of the Community Relations Commission.
- 5 December 1969
HONIP(69) 32
Paragraph 6 Samuel Stevenson sentenced to 12 years imprisonment for causing
explosions at an electricity sub station at Castlereagh, at an
electricity pylon at Annaboe on 20 April and at a water main
at Templepatrick on 24 April.
- 13 December 1969
HONIP(69) 33
Paragraph 1 An off-licence owned by a Catholic family in Belfast is badly
damaged by a home-made bomb.
- 18 December 1969
HONIP(69) 34
Paragraph 2 Apprentice Boys' Ceremony in Londonderry to mark the anniversary
of the closing of the gates of Londonderry in 1638.
- 22 December 1969
HONIP(69) 34
Paragraph 3 Miss B Devlin is sentenced to six months imprisonment at Londonderry
Magistrates Court.
HONIP(69) 34
Paragraph 5 The Northern Ireland Government announce that the ban on outdoor
meetings and public processions will not be renewed in its
present form when it expires on 31 December.

26 December 1969 Daniel O'Connell monument in Dublin is damaged by a time bomb.
HONIP(69) 1
Paragraph 6

3 & 4 The People's Democracy hold meetings at Dungiven and Londonderry.
January 1970
HONIP(70) 2
Paragraph 5

5 January 1970 A group of residents of the Shankill Road area protest against
HONIP(70) 2
Paragraph 9 the incomplete policing of the Falls.

6 January 1970 An inquest jury at Londonderry return an open verdict on
HONIP(70) 2
Paragraph 10 Mr Francis McCloskey who died as a result of injuries sustained
during rioting in Dungiven on 13 July 1969,

14 January 1970 Policing of the Falls Road area steps up.
HONIP(70) 3
Paragraph 2

17 January 1970 Miss B Devlin and Mr M Farrell address a large meeting organised
HONIP(70) 4
Paragraph 2 by the People's Democracy.

19 January 1970 Mr Frank Gogarty and Miss Bernadette Devlin address a civil
HONIP(70) 4
Paragraph 2 rights meeting at Londonderry.