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NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE

Government Buildings Great George Street London SW1P 3AJ

Telephone Direct Dialling 01-233 8223
Exchange 01-233 3000

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CA.

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Your reference

Our reference ADM 18/47/03

Date 11 March 1981

VISITS TO NORTHERN IRELAND BY THE PRIME MINISTER - CODEWORD

.....

I attach for your personal information copy No 1 of a memorandum explaining the use of a codeword in connection with any visits to Northern Ireland by the Prime Minister. Will you please note its contents and acknowledge receipt by signing and returning to me the enclosed receipt form.

The memorandum dated 4 January 1980 explaining the use of the previous codeword is to be destroyed.

In the event of an impending visit to Northern Ireland by the Prime Minister the necessary operational guidance will be passed to you at the appropriate time, under reference of the codeword.

G A WEST
Departmental Security Officer
Establishment Division

DEM

Distribution: as attached schedule

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DISTRIBUTION LIST

1. Principal Private Secretary, 10 Downing Street
2. Private Secretary to Secretary of State, NIO(L)
3. " " " " " " NIO(B)
4. PUS, NIO(L)
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6. PUS, NIO(L) - for Co-ordinator
7. Deputy Secretary, NIO(L)
8. Deputy Secretary, NIO(B)
9. Security Co-ordinator, NIO(B)
10. Under-Secretary (Political Affairs and Information Services), NIO(B)
11. Principal Establishment and Finance Officer, NIO(L)
12. Chief Constable, RUC Headquarters
13. GOC, HQNI
14. Press Secretary, 10 Downing Street
15. Personal Air Secretary to the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the RAF, MOD
16. Head of NICS, Stormont Castle
17. Senior Assistant Secretary, NIO Information Services, NIO(B)
18. Head of Secretary of State's Protection Group, NIO(L)
19. Station Commander, RAF Northolt
20. Station Commander, RAF Aldergrove
21. Departmental Security Officer, NIO(L) - for file

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ADM 18/47/03

VISITS TO NORTHERN IRELAND BY THE
PRIME MINISTER - INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE OF CODEWORD

1. It has been agreed with No 10 Downing Street that any visit by the Prime Minister to Northern Ireland should be the subject of an operational codeword. This will make it easier to inform officers who need to know of the visit beforehand, and will facilitate communication about the visit in writing or by telephone.
2. The codeword to be used is TUSSORE. It should normally be used in the form "OPERATION TUSSORE". The formal meaning of the codeword is "Visit of the Prime Minister to Northern Ireland". The codeword itself is classified CONFIDENTIAL; its meaning is classified SECRET.
3. Knowledge of the codeword and its meaning is to be controlled on the strictest possible "need to know" basis. This memorandum is accordingly issued on the authority of the PUS of NIO for the personal information of the addressee. It should not be shown, nor should the codeword or its meaning be revealed orally or in any other document, to any other officer without prior consultation with the Departmental Security Officer, Northern Ireland Office, London.
4. The codeword is changed after each visit. It may also need to be changed if it is compromised by incorrect use, unauthorised communication of its meaning, or through a security breach. Any known or suspected compromise of the codeword should be reported immediately by telephone in guarded terms, and then in writing to the Departmental Security Officer, NIO(L) (telephone: 01 233 8223).

G A WEST
DEPARTMENTAL SECURITY OFFICER
NIO(L)
11 March 1981

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