

EUROPEAN COUNCIL, DUBLIN

Programme:

I attach a programme for the European Council on 29/30 November which gives some very general timings. The meeting will be very open-ended, particularly on Friday when discussions may go on in the afternoon and early evening.

As you know, we are asked to be deliberately vague about the time of the PM's arrival and departure in Dublin and her movements whilst there, for the obvious security reasons.

Composition of British Delegation:

The PM will be accompanied by Lord Carrington and Sir Geoffrey Howe.

Agenda:

There are no formal agendas for these European Council meetings but the following subjects are likely to come up for discussion in Dublin:

Economic situation in the Community

Budget/convergence (obviously the most important item)

Employment and social policy

Energy

Three Wise Men (who have been examining the working of Community institutions)

Any other business (under which the French will probably raise sheep meat)

There will be more guidance available on the subjects for discussion after tomorrow's pre-Dublin background briefing for British correspondents (Room West 25, FCO, 27 November at 1630).

Press arrangements:

Correspondents going to Dublin should keep in touch with Bernard Ingham who will be staying at the Royal Hibernian Hotel. He is likely to give most if not all his briefings in the press centre in Dublin Castle. The following main briefings are planned:

Lord Carrington - after the Thursday afternoon session

Bernard Ingham - for British correspondents only late Thursday evening after dinner

Prime Minister's press conference at the end of the meeting on Friday afternoon after the Presidency's press conference.

Bernard Ingham will, of course, be available to brief informally throughout the meeting.

EUROPEAN COUNCIL, DUBLIN, 29/30 NOVEMBER 1979

Provisional Programme

The Prime Minister and the Secretary of State will stay at the Ambassador's Residence, Glencairn. The programme will be as follows:

Thursday 29 November

1300	Phoenix Park	Lunch hosted by President Hillery for Heads of Government, Foreign Ministers, Mr Jenkins and M Ortolì.
	Dublin Castle	Lunch for other delegation members in the "State Drawing Room".
1500	Dublin Castle	Formal session of the Council (press filming will be allowed before the session opens).
2000	Iveagh House	Dinner hosted by Prime Minister Lynch for Heads of Government and Mr Jenkins.
	Iveagh House	Separate dinner hosted by Foreign Minister O'Kennedy for Foreign Ministers and M Ortolì.
	Iveagh House	Both dinners will be followed by informal discussions.
	Dublin Castle	Dinner for other delegation members.
Late Evening	Glencairn	British delegation meeting.

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Friday 30 November

- c. 0830 Glencairn Prime Minister and Secretary of State leave for Dublin Castle by road or helicopter. If by road, a pause could be made at HM Embassy to meet staff members and wives.
- c. 0930 Dublin Castle Council session resumes (group photo will be taken before this session).
- c. 1300 Dublin Castle Optional buffet lunch for members of the European Council in the "Round Room".
- Dublin Castle Separate lunch for other delegation members in the "State Drawing Room".

Note: Contingency provision has been made for the Council to run on late into the afternoon. Timing for Presidency Press Conference has not yet been fixed.