



Prime Minister
The fact that
the Taoiseach's objection
it does not necessarily
mean it's a bad
thing. But there are
other more serious
objections. C.D.P. 9/11

Ref. A084/2327

MR POWELL

Since the Prime Minister has once or twice mentioned the possibility of repartition in Northern Ireland, you may care to draw her attention (if you have not already done so) to paragraph 4 of telegram no 599 from Dublin on 6 November, which confirms that the Irish Government would be strongly against repartition. It quotes the Taoiseach as saying:

Attached

That's why
he doesn't
like it.

"It would lead to a more permanent division of the island than hitherto, and it would be likely to be accompanied by violence. I've always opposed it absolutely as the very last thing we want to see. I doubt very much if anything of that kind is being seriously considered by the British Government".

RIA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

9 November 1984

IMMEDIATE

PS
PS/LADY YOUNG
PS/VP RENTON

PS/S DE E
PS/ MR R. ANDREW
OAB 1/56

PS/PCS

VP BERNAN

~~SIR J. SULLIVAN~~

VP ~~ANDERSON~~ Burns

VP J. J. JONES

J. LYON
VP ~~SCOTT~~

NIO

SIR E. ARMSTRONG

CABINET

DIO

D/PS

D/PCSD (2)

D/INFO D

D/NEWS D

PS/NO 10 DOWNING STREET (3)

GRS 220
UNCLASSIFIED
FM DUBLIN 061212Z NOV 84
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 599 OF 6 NOVEMBER 1984
INFO ROUTINE TO NIO(L) NIO(B)



HOT PURSUIT ZONE AND REPARTITION

1. THE DUBLIN NEWSPAPERS OF 5 NOVEMBER REPORTED AN ARTICLE IN "FORTNIGHT" BY BOYLE AND HADDEN PROPOSING A HOT PURSUIT ZONE ACROSS THE BORDER.
2. THE PAPERS OF 6 NOVEMBER REPORT THAT, ON HIS RETURN TO DUBLIN THE PREVIOUS EVENING, THE TAOISEACH SAID HE HAD ALWAYS RULED OUT SUCH A SUGGESTION. HE IS QUOTED AS SAYING "A HOT PURSUIT ZONE WOULD BE POLITICALLY DANGEROUS AND WOULD ONLY CREATE TWO MORE BORDERS THAT PEOPLE COULD NOT CROSS". HE AGREED THAT HE HAD IN THE PAST SUGGESTED THE IDEA OF A SECURITY FORCE FOR THE ISLAND AS A WHOLE BUT THAT WOULD HAVE TO OPERATE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A POWER-SHARING GOVERNMENT IN THE NORTH WORKING TOGETHER WITH THE GOVERNMENT IN THE REPUBLIC IN THE SECURITY AREA. THE IRISH TIMES QUOTE HIM AS SAYING "THAT WOULD BE A VERY LONG DISTANCE IN THE FUTURE, I AM AFRAID. WE ARE A LONG WAY FROM THE POSITION WHERE WE WOULD HAVE A POWER SHARING GOVERNMENT IN NORTHERN IRELAND WITH CONTROL OF SECURITY".
3. THE IRISH TIMES ALSO REPORTS THAT AN IRISH GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID LAST NIGHT THAT THE BOYLE/HADDEN DOCUMENT DID NOT HAVE ANY OFFICIAL STATUS. IT WAS THE WORK OF PROFESSOR BOYLE AND DR HADDEN, WITH WHOM THE GOVERNMENT HAD NOT BEEN IN CONTACT. IT HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED BY THE GOVERNMENT BEFORE DURING OR SINCE ITS PRODUCTION.
4. THE QUESTION OF REPARTITION WAS ALSO REFERRED TO BY THE TAOISEACH ON HIS RETURN TO DUBLIN: "IT WOULD LEAD TO A MORE PERMANENT

4. THE QUESTION OF REPARTITION WAS ALSO REFERRED TO BY THE TAOISEACH ON HIS RETURN TO DUBLIN: "IT WOULD LEAD TO A MORE PERMANENT DIVISION OF THE ISLAND THAN HITHERTO, AND IT WOULD BE LIKELY TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY VIOLENCE. I'VE ALWAYS OPPOSED IT ABSOLUTELY AS THE VERY LAST THING WE WANT TO SEE. I DOUBT VERY MUCH IF ANYTHING OF THAT KIND IS BEING SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT".

5. PRESS CUTTINGS FOLLOW BY BAG.

GOODISON

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