



Prime minister 1
Content that no attempt
should be made to set up
all party talks on a
Bill of Rights?

Yes
no

LM
30/3

PRIME MINISTER

BILL OF RIGHTS: ALL-PARTY TALKS

Last June I reported to you the conclusion of the Home and Social Affairs Committee that we should honour our Manifesto commitment by seeking to arrange all-party talks on a possible Bill of Rights. In view of the difficulties in deciding how Northern Ireland parties should be represented, and of the situation prevailing last July, you subsequently agreed that action to set up these talks should be deferred.

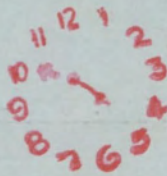
I have recently had an opportunity of discussing this matter further with the Lord President to whom I am copying this minute. We both hope you will agree that no attempt should now be made to set up all-party talks on a Bill of Rights.

holl

29 March, 1982



3 0 MAR 1982



FILE

R M

31 March, 1982

BILL OF RIGHTS: ALL-PARTY TALKS

The Prime Minister has seen the Home Secretary's minute of 29 March. She agrees that no attempt should now be made to set up all-party talks on a Bill of Rights.

I am sending a copy of this letter to David Heyhoe (Lord President's Office).

W. F. S. RICKETT

J Halliday, Esq
Home Office

So



PRIME MINISTER

Prime minister

Content to defer
all party talks
until after the recess?

Yes not

WM
15/7

BILL OF RIGHTS

My minute to you of 3 June reported the conclusion of the Home and Social Affairs Committee that we should now honour our Manifesto commitment by seeking to arrange all-party talks on a possible Bill of Rights. The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster has since discussed with the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland how the Northern Ireland parties should be represented at the talks and that will clearly be a difficult problem to resolve. More generally I doubt whether, in the light of events in the past 10 days, it is appropriate at the present time to pursue arrangements for setting up these talks. The Chancellor of the Duchy, with whom I have discussed the matter, shares my view that we should not try to take this further before the Recess. If you are content that we should handle the issue in this way, I shall report our conclusions to you when we have considered the matter further in the Autumn.

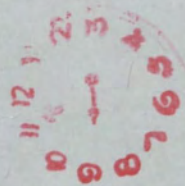
I am copying this minute to other Members of the Cabinet, to the Attorney General and the Chief Whip, and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

14

July 1981



16 JUL 1961



FILE

R H

Legal
Procedure

17 July, 1981

Bill of Rights

The Prime Minister was grateful for the Home Secretary's minute of 14 July about the handling of all-party talks on a possible Bill of Rights.

No
and
before

The Prime Minister agrees that no action should be taken to set up all-party talks before the Recess, and that the Home Secretary should report again in the autumn.

I am copying this minute to the Private Secretaries to the Members of Cabinet, the Attorney-General, the Chief Whip and Sir Robert Armstrong.

W. F. S. RICKETT

Andrew Jackson, Esq
Home Office

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