

SECRET AND PERSONAL

Aine Dunne.

16

You could see Mr. Spring
at 12.00 on Tuesday, 19
June. Do you wish to?

A.S.C. 8/16.

B.06770

MR COLES

I have nothing to say

to him. I shall be seeing Mr. Fitzgerald

Anglo-Irish Relations: Visit by the Tanaiste

*at
Pouterham.*

1. The Irish Ambassador telephoned me this morning to say that the Tanaiste (Deputy Prime Minister), Mr Dick Spring, would be visiting London on Tuesday, 19 June, for talks with the Labour Party and the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Neil Kinnock. The Ambassador had been instructed to take soundings as to whether it might be possible for Mr Spring to pay a short call on the Prime Minister. Mr Dorr emphasised that he was not instructed to request such a meeting but simply to explore whether a request was likely to be favourably received.

*I doubt
the
wisdom
of seeing
Mr Spring
at*

2. Mr Dorr said that Mr Spring, as Leader of the Irish Labour Party, was a figure of crucial importance in Dr Fitzgerald's Coalition Government, and was privy to the Armstrong/Nally exchanges as well as to the content of Mr Barry's communication to me on 30 May. He would no doubt wish to talk to the Prime Minister about the Forum Report but would not have any new demarche to make. From an Irish perspective, however, it would clearly be helpful if the Prime Minister could find time to receive Mr Spring for about half an hour. If it would help, he might be able to start his visit to London on the evening of 18 June.

3. I undertook to consult you and let Mr Dorr have a response within the next couple of days.



SECRET AND PERSONAL

4. I am sending copies of this minute to the Private Secretaries to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

David Goodall

A D S Goodall

7 June 1984