

Ref. A084/1717

MR POWELL

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Ireland: Meetings
with the Taoiseach

European Council: Meeting with the Taoiseach

Mr Nally has been in touch today about arrangements for a meeting between the Prime Minister and the Taoiseach in the margins of the European Council. He said that the Taoiseach would be happy to meet the Prime Minister at Fontainebleau, or to come and see her on his way back from Fontainebleau in London.

2. In the light of Mr Coles's minute of 11 June and of a brief conversation with you I rang Mr Nally to say that the Prime Minister was looking forward to seeing the Taoiseach at Fontainebleau. Arrangements could be made on the spot when both concerned were there.

3. Mr Nally said that the Taoiseach would be perfectly content with that. He would hope, however, that there could be somewhat longer time for the meeting than on previous occasions, since he was likely to want to have some "substantive" discussion.

Mr Nally did not tell me any more about that, but said that the Irish Ambassador would be coming in to tell me what was in mind.

4. I have not been expecting to go to the European Council on this occasion; but in view of this development on the Irish side I think that it would be helpful if I could be present (as Mr Nally certainly will be) when the Prime Minister and the Taoiseach meet. I hope that the Prime Minister will agree that I can be added to the Fontainebleau party.

RIA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

13 June 1984

IRELAND - SIT - P.16

