

SECRET
PERSONAL



NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE
GREAT GEORGE STREET,
LONDON SW1P 3AJ

Permanent Under Secretary

Sir Kenneth Stowe KCB CVO

Prime Minister

KW

12 June 1981

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Clive Whitmore Esq
Prime Minister's Office
10 Downing Street
London SW1

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Dear Clive.

Further to my note to Edward Adeane on PENTACLE, you should be aware that Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, will be visiting Northern Ireland on 26 August to present new colours to a Territorial Army Battalion of the Royal Irish Rangers in their Depot barracks at Ballymena.

Invitations to this ceremony and a low key announcement in the most general terms will be issued next week.

This falls outside the scope of the Air Vice Marshal's review and recommendations because it is a very brief, purely military, engagement in which Princess Alice will be secure in RAF Aldergrove, travelling by RAF helicopter or secure in the barracks at Ballymena. Furthermore, public knowledge of this visit may well act to our advantage by serving to divert attention from PENTACLE.

Yours

Ken.

K R STOWE

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Royal
Family

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

15 June 1981

Dear Ken,

Thank you for your letter of 12 June 1981 about the visit which Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester will be paying to Northern Ireland on 26 August to present new colours to a Territorial Army Battalion of the Royal Irish Rangers.

I have shown your letter to the Prime Minister, who has taken note of it.

Yours ever,

Anne

Sir Kenneth Stowe KCB CVO

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