



Prime Minister
 Agree to see
 the Taoiseach
 for an hour while
 he is in London
 in February?

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

27 January 1986

Dear Charles,

CDP 209;

Visit to London by Dr FitzGerald

The Irish Ambassador telephoned David Goodall on 24 January on instructions to say that the Taoiseach had accepted an invitation to speak at the Institute of Petroleum dinner in London on 19 February and was proposing to take the opportunity of carrying out a number of other engagements in London over the three days 18-20 February, including a Parliamentary Press Gallery lunch, also on 19 February. Dr FitzGerald hoped very much that it would be possible for him to have a meeting with the Prime Minister at some point during his stay and would defer fixing up the rest of his programme until he knew whether, and if so when, this would be possible. Noel Dorr said that the Taoiseach believed that a meeting around the middle of February would be timely and useful.

Subject to the views of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, the Foreign Secretary is inclined to agree that a meeting between the Taoiseach and the Prime Minister on one of the dates proposed would be a good opportunity to take stock of developments in Ireland since the conclusion of the Anglo-Irish Agreement and to impress on Dr FitzGerald personally the importance of positive action by the Irish Government and the SDLP to demonstrate that the Agreement is bringing benefits to the people of Northern Ireland as a whole.

I should be grateful if you could let me know what reply the Prime Minister would like us to convey to the Irish Ambassador.

Copies of this letter go to the Private Secretaries to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours ever,
 L V Appleyard
 (L V Appleyard)
 Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
 10 Downing Street

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

28 January 1986

VISIT TO LONDON BY DR. FITZGERALD

Thank you for your letter of 27 January about Dr. FitzGerald's forthcoming visit. The Prime Minister would be able to see Dr. FitzGerald between 1715 and 1815 on Wednesday 19 February.

Copies of this letter go to the Private Secretaries to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

(C.D. Powell)

L.V. Appleyard, Esq., C.M.G.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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