



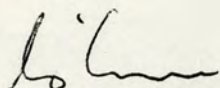
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Reference Code:	2018/28/2249
Creation Dates:	4 March 1988
Extent and medium:	1 pages
Creator(s):	Department of Foreign Affairs
Accession Conditions:	Open
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Funeral Arrangements for IRA members killed in
Crossmaglen bombing

I spoke this morning to Fr. Moran, the Parish Priest of Cullyhanna, about the funeral arrangements for Brendan Burns and Brendan Moley, the two IRA members killed by their own bomb in Crossmaglen this week. Fr. Moran said that both funerals would take place tomorrow (Saturday). He said that the area is quiet at present and he is hopeful that both funerals will pass off peacefully. He said that the Burns' funeral has tentatively been arranged for 12.00 in Crossmaglen, with the Moley funeral at 3 p.m. in Cullyhanna, and "that if it were left to the families there would be no hassle". In both cases burial will follow immediately after Mass.

Fr. Moran has been in constant contact with Supt. French who is co-ordinating the RUC involvement in both funerals from Bessbrook. Supt. French (a Catholic) has also been in touch with Cardinal O Fiaich. The latter has also been in touch with Fr. Moran and with Canon O'Neill in Crossmaglen. Supt. French has told Fr. Moran that he is anxious that the RUC presence at the funerals should be "low profile and restrained". It is expected that both coffins will be draped with Tricolours and Supt. French has indicated to Fr. Moran that he will not interfere with this arrangement. Fr. Moran (who has no problems with the use of the flag in the church) expects orations to take place in the cemeteries but is not anticipating any paramilitary display ("the shots fired last night should see that out of the way").



T. O'Connor,
Anglo-Irish Section,
4 March 1988.

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