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Title: 2 memos by T.K. Whitaker, Secretary, Department of Finance, on discussions with Jim Malley, Private Secretary to Prime Minister O'Neill, regarding plans for Taoiseach's visit to Belfast.

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Taoiseach. To me, please. Mr 8/1/65

Mr. Foley.

Mr. Malley phoned this morning at 9.35 to say that the letter had arrived intact.

I conveyed to him at 10.25 the Taoiseach's view that it would look more natural if the announcement of the visit were released in time for the morning newspapers but that if Captain O'Neill had a strong preference for delaying the release until 1.10 p.m. the Taoiseach would acquiesce.

Having confirmed that we were expected in Belfast about 1 p.m., I said we would arrive at the Border about an hour before, i.e. about noon.

1 d.d.

8 January, 1965.

*✓ Ben
Return done
papers
of 15.1*

*Mr. Foley.**Pl. let Taoiseach see. I shall need
inform re A + B below. H.**1 Feb. 7/1/65**Taoiseach.**To me, please
NF 7/1/65*

Mr. Malley phoned this morning at 9.45 and told Miss Stuart my letter had not reached him. He said Thursday 14 would be the more convenient date and I passed this information to Mr. Foley for the Taoiseach. He would await delivery of the second post at midday before phoning me again.

I phoned Mr. Malley on my private line at 12.20 and found he had not yet received my letter. He suggested sending a copy, but I thought it better to risk giving him a run over the salient points on the phone, including the text of the proposed announcement. He will phone me back this afternoon. I told him how my letter had been addressed and packaged and asked him to inquire from his own Post Office people about a letter he was expecting from a friend in Dublin. I have myself asked Leon Ó Broin, Secretary, Department of Posts and Telegraphs, to make discreet inquiries as to the cause of the delay in delivery.

The letter was enclosed in a white official envelope marked "Personal - for Mr. Malley only". This official envelope was itself enclosed in a plain white envelope bearing a postage stamp and no official markings, but marked only with the word "Personal" and addressed:

J.Y. Malley, Esq., D.S.O., D.F.C.,
Private Secretary to Prime Minister,
Stormont Castle,
Belfast 4.

1 Feb.

7 January, 1965.

Mr. Malley phoned me at 3.30 p.m. He suggested meeting the Taoiseach's car at the Border, whence an escort car would lead us to Stormont. He inquired as to the likely time of arrival at the Border and I promised to let him know this.

A |

/As

As to the proposed announcement, the only point was the timing. The Northern Ireland Prime Minister would prefer not to release it until 1.10 p.m. on Thursday, 14 January. This would mean saying "today met" instead of "will meet" and "discussed" instead of "will discuss".

B | I promised to phone him the Taoiseach's view on this later timing. The explanation given was the desire to avoid any fuss or demonstrations.

1.10.65
7/11/65