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**Title:** Copy letter from Ambassador of Great Britain to Ireland John Peck to Minister for External Affairs Patrick Hillery regarding incursions by British troops into the Republic of Ireland.

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14 July, 1970

You will recall that on Friday, 10 July, you invited me to call at the Department of External Affairs and that, accompanied by a member of your staff, I called upon the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Defence who told me of reports that they had received of instances in which British troops had crossed into the territory of the Irish Republic. I undertook to report to Her Majesty's Government.

2. I have now been instructed to assure you
  - (i) that any crossings of the border by members of H.M. Forces have been entirely accidental;
  - (ii) that stringent orders have been given to avoid further violations; and
  - (iii) that if you will give me the details of any complaints that have been made, I will transmit them in order that they may be investigated.
  
3. In the meantime I am instructed to convey regrets for any instances of this nature that have occurred.

John Peck

Dr. P.J. Hillery, T.D.,  
Minister for External Affairs,  
DUBLIN.