

## NATIONAL ARCHIVES

### IRELAND



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TO HQ FROM CANBERRA  
FOR P HENNESSY FROM CARROLL

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27 JUNE 1977

PAGE ONE OF TODAY'S "THE AUSTRALIAN" HAS A LARGE HEADLINE  
"MOVE TO ADMIT ULSTER VICTIMS". THE ARTICLE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING  
AFTER A DISCUSSION OF THE SOUTH-EAST ASIAN REFUGEE PROBLEM  
QUOTE "ON THE QUESTION OF REFUGEES FROM NORTHERN IRELAND, THE  
MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR PEACOCK, IS EXPECTED TO PROPOSE  
TO CABINET SOON THAT AUSTRALIA ADOPT AN OPEN-DOOR POLICY ON MIGRANTS  
WANTING TO ESCAPE THE VIOLENCE

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS NO "REFUGEE" POLICY ON ULSTER AND  
MR MACKELLAR SAID LAST NIGHT ANY PEOPLE ACCEPTED WOULD HAVE TO  
PROVIDE A CLEAR CHARACTER ASSESSMENT FROM AUTHORITIES AT THE BELFAST  
END THE SCREENING WOULD BE VITAL TO KEEP OUT EITHER IRA OR UDA  
TERRORISTS

HE SAID: "THERE ARE FEARS THAT THESE PEOPLE WOULD CARRY ON THEIR  
FEUD HERE. WE WOULD HAVE TO BE ABLE TO REASSURE AUSTRALIA'S THAT  
THESE MIGRANTS WOULD NOT BE A DISRUPTIVE INFLUENCE IF THEY WERE  
ALLOWED TO SETTLE HERE."

THE SCHEME WAS ORIGINALLY PUT TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND BY  
VISITING ULSTER PEACE CAMPAIGNER MRS MAIREAD CORRIGAN

NEW ZEALAND'S PRIME MINISTER, MR MULDOON, WAS ENTHUSIASTIC AND  
IMMEDIATELY AGREED, DESPITE SOME OPPOSITION WITHIN NEW ZEALAND

IT WAS MR MULDOON WHO RE-OPENED THE IDZA OF AUSTRALIA TAKING SOME  
OF THE MIGRANTS DURING TALKS WITH MR PEACOCK IN PARIS LAST WEEK  
AND MR PEACOCK IS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE INDICATED HE IS IN FAVOR".  
UNQUOTE

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