



# An Chartlann Náisiúnta National Archives

<b>Reference Code:</b>	2016/52/65
<b>Creation Dates:</b>	7 March 1986
<b>Extent and medium:</b>	4 pages
<b>Creator(s):</b>	Department of the Taoiseach
<b>Accession Conditions:</b>	Open
<b>Copyright:</b>	National Archives, Ireland. May only be reproduced with the written permission of the Director of the National Archives.

To: Taoiseach

PERSONAL & SECRET

From: D. Nally

Northern Ireland

Phone Conversation between the Taoiseach and Prime Minister Thatcher

The conversation took a little under 10 minutes from approximately 1 to 1.10 p.m. Three subjects were covered -

- (1) the Paisley/Molyneaux advertisement, of which a copy is attached;
- (2) the King speech on the Agreement's being a "bulwark against reunification"; and
- (3) approaches to the U.S. administration on the Taoiseach's forthcoming visit.

This note is done in the form of direct speech. It does not, however, purport to be verbatim.

After the usual preliminary remarks the Taoiseach began.

Taoiseach:

We are very concerned about the advertisement from Messrs Paisley and Molyneaux in today's Newsletter directed to the RUC. The advertisement is very damaging, if not horrifying. It is seditious. It omits in particular, that the article from which it quotes is directed to the enhancement of cross-Border security co-operation. We have come to the conclusion that it is better for your people to deal with it and we understand that they are working with it - in consultation.

Prime Minister:

I have not seen the advertisement but will certainly look for it. I am glad that our people are doing something about it.

Taoiseach:

Then there is the unfortunate remark by Secretary of State King about the Agreement being "a bulwark against reunification". No one here comments on the Agreement in that way, so far as our point of view is concerned.

/...

2.

Prime Minister:

What I usually say is that I hope and expect the union to continue.

Taoiseach:

Yes - that is perfectly understood. That is something very different from what the Secretary of State is saying. If there were any way of ensuring that he gets it right....

Prime Minister:

He has been under the most tremendous pressure recently. The Unionists are desperately in need of reassurance. He has to keep emphasising that there will be no change without the consent of a majority in Northern Ireland. He just has to pursue this sort of policy.

Taoiseach:

The whole thing is very complicated, as you appreciate. The situation is not helped by interpretations from one side ~~for~~ for the other of what is in the Agreement.

There is a further point I would like to mention to you. I understand that a message has been conveyed to the White House about my forthcoming visit to the United States. This message is being interpreted there as a request to them to give the visit as low a profile as possible.

Prime Minister:

It is difficult to hear what you are saying. The line is bad.

Taoiseach:

repeated what he had said.

Prime Minister:

I have made that request to the White House? I certainly have made no such request and I don't know if anyone else has or has not. Do you realise the sort of problem we have in Northern Ireland?

Taoiseach:

Yes - one of the objects of my visit is to counter the IRA. Another complication is the need that I will have to hold the line there against the Leader of the Opposition - who has been criticising the Agreement in New York. I cannot do this if people are talking about a low profile to my visit.



## Special Message from Ulster's Elected Leaders to all Members of the R.U.C.

"These are trying times for us all. None of us can run away from making a choice. We realise the pressures on you but we cannot sit back and allow you to be misled by false assurances that the Anglo-Irish Agreement does not interfere with the integrity of the R.U.C. or involve a foreign power in directing your affairs. Article 9 of the Agreement says of the Intergovernmental Council, jointly chaired by Mr. Barry and Mr. King, that it shall 'set in hand a programme of work to be undertaken by the Chief Constable of the R.U.C.'. Nothing could be clearer. Patently the Chief Constable, and thus every serving officer, is no longer subject solely to internal U.K. direction. The Dublin Government now have an equal say in 'setting in hand' the work of the Chief Constable. This radically alters the role of R.U.C. officers, who were employed and who took an oath to 'truly serve' our Sovereign. Now you are being asked to serve a second master — the Government of an Irish Republic which spawned the Provisional IRA and which still harbours the murderers of so many of your gallant colleagues — and all this within the framework of a code of conduct to be dictated by Dublin.



"Our thoughts and prayers are with you as you face up to the challenge posed by the Anglo-Irish deal. We are confident that you will make it plain through your professional organisation that you will not yield to pressure to do other than that which you have pledged to do."

Signed:

DR. IAN R. K. PAISLEY, MEP, MP  
RT. HON. JAMES H. MOLYNEUX,  
JP, MP



NEWSLETTER  
7.3.86