

MUFAX. DESKBY 9AM WEDNESDAY 14.7.82  
E.R.

1/2  
 MR BURNS  
 MR COULSON M  
 MR ABBOTT

① Sir Ewart Bell 107/7  
 ② POL 14/7

cc PS/S of S (L&B) M  
 PS/Mr Butler (L&B) M  
 PS/Mr Scott (L&B) M  
 PS/PUS (L&B) M  
 PS/Sir Ewart Bell M  
 Mr Marshall  
 Mr Blelloch M  
 Mr Wyatt M  
 Mr Gilliland M  
 Mr Angel  
 Mr Buxton M  
 Miss Davies M  
 Miss Christopherson  
 Miss Mac Glashan M  
 Mr Burrows  
 Mr Hill  
 Mr Eldon, RID ) FCO  
 Mr Marshall, NAD )

SECRETARY OF STATE'S VISIT TO THE USA

Subject to the Prime Minister's approval, the Secretary of State will visit Washington and New York for one day each between 19 and 21 July - ie next week. The main purpose of his visit will be to publicise to the press and the Congress (and to a lesser extent the administration) the current state of affairs in NI. He will concentrate on the political initiative, but may well also meet some industrialists. Questions from journalists may be expected to range widely over political, economic and security matters, as well as Anglo-Irish relations.

I should be grateful if those to whom this minute is primarily addressed would provide, by Wednesday lunchtime (except for Mr Coulson, to whom out of respect for the 12 July celebrations I will allow until Thursday lunchtime!) a short background brief. I suggest that the Secretary of State needs little briefing on the line to take on most issues and that the most useful briefing will be facts and figures usable in support of the points he is likely to want to get across: but obviously I leave the content to you. The more compressed the briefing can be, the more useful it will be: I would suggest no more than 4 sides on each of the three areas which you represent.

For the record, we in SIL (with the FCO) will be providing material on Anglo-Irish relations and the AIIC; and the FCO will be providing

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briefing on non-Irish issues which might arise - notably the Falklands, the Lebanon and the impact on us of US economic policy, as well as a background brief on the US political scene.

*RAH*

R A HARRINGTON

12 July 1982