

E.R. 1/1

CONFIDENTIAL



99/110

Mr Bourn - M

cc:-PS/Secretary of State(L&B) - M

PS/Mr Scott(L&B) - M

PS/PUS(L&B) - M

PS/Sir Ewart Bell - M

Mr Brennan

Mr Buxton - M

Mr Merifield - M

Mr Gilliland - M

Mr Doyne Dittmas - M

Mr Burns

Mr Coulson - M

Mr Lyon



2. sec 1

ARREST OF MR ADAMS

This is to record that the Secretary of State asked the Chief Constable privately at Enniskillen on 3 October about the arrest and release of Mr Adams.

2. The Chief Constable said that he himself had not been informed in advance, but that he approved of the action. It was partly designed to question Mr Adams about the possible offence under the Immigration Act and partly to enable the RUC to say, in the context of the inquiry into the events of 12 August, that they had interviewed all key witnesses.

3. The Secretary of State told the Chief Constable that, as it happened, no harm had been done. But the Secretary of State added that an operation of this kind was bound to be very sensitive politically, and that he would prefer when possible to be told in advance. Sir John said that this should have been done, and that he had been surprised to find that it had not. He was glad that the Secretary of State had raised the matter, since this would enable him to take steps to put it right for the future.

G K Sandiford

G K SANDIFORD
Private Secretary

4 October 1984

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