

C O N F I D E N T I A L A N D P E R S O N A L

POL 2

AB/5218/AG

FROM: J E MCCONNELL
DATE: 19 JULY 1989

570/7
20 JUL 1989
POL SERVICE

PS/Secretary of State (L&B)-B

cc PS/Minister of State (L&B)-B
PS/Dr Mawhinney (L&B)-B
PS/PUS (L&B)-B
① PS/Sir K Bloomfield - B
Mr Burns - B
Mr Miles - B
Mr Thomas - B
Mr J Daniell - B

UNDER/
SEC 266/7
20 JUL 1989
CENT SEC

20/7
② M. J. Spence

③ PS/Sir Kenneth
BTF 11/8/89

DISCUSSION WITH JOHN ALDERDICE

John Alderdice rang me this morning to ask for a meeting with Dr Mawhinney (provisionally arranged for 10 August) but went on to tell me that he had a meeting with Des O'Malley (PD) in Dublin, during which O'Malley had told him of a conversation he had had with Mr Haughey.

2. Mr O'Malley was pressing Mr Haughey on the question of devolution for Northern Ireland saying that his party would be eager to encourage anything which might lead to such an administration. Mr Haughey apparently bridled at Mr O'Malley's insistence saying that he had already made difficult concessions in accepting PDs into the Cabinet and that he was not about to change his policy on Northern Ireland. Mr Haughey apparently then asked Mr O'Malley why he was pushing so hard for devolution in Northern Ireland whenever each of them knew that John Hume did not want it.

3. Dr Alderdice believes that Mr O'Malley will continue his efforts in trying to persuade both Mr Haughey and other members of his Cabinet that devolution is the way forward for Northern Ireland.

(signed)

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Ext 238

AG 3952

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