



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

30 April 1980

cc Sme Goodchild

Visit by the Irish Prime Minister

As you know, it has been agreed that the Irish Prime Minister, Dr. Haughey, should visit London on Wednesday 21 May. The Prime Minister has offered Dr. Haughey lunch and has invited him to stay on for two hours of talks in the afternoon. The first hour or so of the talks should, no doubt, take place tête-à-tête.

Dermott Nally, with whom I fixed the date for the talks after the Prime Minister had issued the invitation to Dr. Haughey during their meeting in Luxembourg on Sunday, said that the Irish would prefer that the date of the visit should not be announced in advance.

I should be grateful if the detailed arrangements could now be worked out through the usual channels.

It would be helpful if a draft guest list for the lunch, which should be a small working lunch for twelve, could reach me by 9 May and if the briefs could be available by close of play on Friday 16 May.

I am sending copies of this letter to Roy Harrington (Northern Ireland Office) and David Wright (Cabinet Office).

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

Paul Lever, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

cc Mrs Woodchild a.g.

1
Munt



Prime Minister.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

I think the lunch should be limited to 12. If we have to drop one of the British list (we ^{may} not have to do so) it should perhaps be

8 May 1980

Dear Michael,

Sir R. Armstrong. Agree?

Yes mt.
Munt 9/5
It can't be more than 12 mt.

VISIT BY THE TAOISEACH : 21 MAY

In your letter of 30 April to Paul Lever you asked for a draft guest list for a lunch for 12 to be given by the Prime Minister.

We have asked the Irish to let us have six names; it is likely that they will wish to include, in addition to the Taoiseach himself and Mr Lenihan, Dr Kennedy, the Irish Ambassador, Mr Nally of the Taoiseach's Office, and Mr O'Rourke, Secretary for Foreign Affairs (ie Permanent Under Secretary).

On the British side, Lord Carrington is already hosting a lunch that day for Dr Waldheim, but will be able to join the talks in the afternoon. We accordingly suggest the following list for the lunch:

- ✓ Prime Minister
- ✓ Lord Privy Seal
- ✓ Secretary of State for Northern Ireland
- ✓ Sir Robin Haydon
- Sir Robert Armstrong
- ✓ Mr Stowe
- ✓ Private Secretary

/This

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street
London



This would of course mean seven on the British side (and presumably therefore an additional Irishman), and a total of 14. If it is essential to stick to 12, may we leave it to you to decide who should be left out?

I am sending copies of this letter to Roy Harrington (Northern Ireland Office) and David Wright (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever,

Myles !:

M A Wickstead
Assistant Private Secretary
to the Lord Privy Seal

1-8 MAY 1980





Prime Minister

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

You will want to be aware of this.
But there is no need at all for you to
go: you have already planned a meal
for that evening to discuss British

9 May 1980

Leyland. Decline?

Paul 9/5

Yes. regrettably

out

Dear Michael,

MEETING BETWEEN THE TAOISEACH AND THE PRIME MINISTER: 21 MAY

You should know that the Taoiseach has decided to stay the night of 21 May in London so that the Irish Ambassador can give a dinner in his honour. The Ambassador has asked us to enquire whether the Prime Minister and Mr Thatcher would be able to attend.

The Ambassador fully understands that the Prime Minister will probably not at this late stage be free to accept his invitation, and there is no reason to suppose that the Taoiseach himself would expect her to do so, though he would certainly be delighted if she did. Lord Carrington has agreed to attend the dinner.

Perhaps you would let me know how we should respond.

Yours etc

Paul

(P Lever)

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street

9 MAY 1960



12 May 1980

Visit by the Taoiseach

The Prime Minister has seen your letter to me of 9 May about Mr. Haughey's visit to London. She will not be able to attend the Irish Ambassador's dinner. I would be grateful if you could convey her regrets to Dr. Kennedy.

MICHAEL ALEXANDER

Paul Lever, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

14 May 1980

VISIT BY THE TAOISEACH

The Prime Minister has seen your letter to me of 8 May. You have since told me that the Irish will indeed wish to have six places at lunch, and I have told you that the lunch will have to be limited to a total of 12. On our side the list will therefore be, in addition to the Prime Minister, the Lord Privy Seal, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Sir Robin Haydon, Mr. Stowe and a Private Secretary.

I am copying this letter to Roy Harrington (Northern Ireland Office) and David Wright (Cabinet Office).

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

M. A. Wickstead, Esq.,
Lord Privy Seal's Office.

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