

SECRET

S/301/95

From: RODERIC LYNE

Date: 5 December 1995

ARABELLA WARBURTON

cc: Alex Allan  
Lorne Roper-Caldbeck  
Edward Oakden  
Mark Adams  
Jane Rowell  
Trevor Butler  
Christopher Meyer OR  
Andrew Marre  
Janice Richards  
Carol Bowdery

**VISIT BY THE PRIME MINISTER TO NORTHERN IRELAND AND  
THE REPUBLIC, 21/22 DECEMBER**

I attach a self-explanatory letter to the Northern Ireland Office about arrangements for the above visit.

Despite the ceasefire, it is important for security reasons that news of the Prime Minister's trip should not leak until we are ready to announce it. I would therefore be grateful if all recipients of this minute could observe a strict radio silence.

You will wish to construct an appropriate cover story for the diary on 21 December.

Grateful if Janice Richards could reserve a BAe 146 from the RAF, stressing confidentiality. Could she also please liaise with Trevor Butler and Lorne Roper-Caldbeck (and then with our Ambassador in Dublin) over Mrs Major's

SECRET

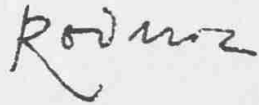
SECRET

- 2 -

separate travel arrangements from London to Dublin.

Our Ambassador in Dublin should provide Trevor Butler with contact points for security liaison. The usual arrangements will apply for Northern Ireland.

Could Janice and Carol please nominate members of staff for the trip? They could also open discreet discussions with FCO, Protocol and our Embassy in Dublin about accommodation and logistics. (I do not think it should be necessary for an FCO Protocol Officer to go out to Dublin, unless Mrs Sutherland feels that the Embassy cannot handle these fairly straightforward arrangements on their own.)



RODERIC LYNE

f\visit2.sm

SECRET