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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

23 October 1984

*Dear Charles,*

Anglo-Irish Summit: Ashford Castle, Republic of Ireland

Thank you for your letter of 5 October. I understand that despite the IRA bomb outrage in Brighton the Prime Minister wishes the Summit to go ahead, and that she is still willing to accept the Irish invitation to Ashford Castle. In accordance with the guidelines laid down by the Cabinet Office, I am therefore writing to make proposals on participation by Ministers and officials at the meeting.

The main purpose of the Summit will be to discuss Anglo-Irish relations, with particular reference to Northern Ireland. You have already told me that the Prime Minister wishes to be accompanied, as at the last Summit, by the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland; and that she would like the official team to be kept as small as possible. We suggest that the latter should comprise one Private Secretary for each of the Ministers concerned, plus Sir Robert Armstrong, Mr Robert Andrew, Mr David Goodall and Mr Bernard Ingham. Dr FitzGerald will almost certainly be accompanied by the Irish Foreign Minister, Mr Barry, and by Mr Spring, the Tanaiste (Deputy Prime Minister). The Irish official team will also include their Ambassador in London, Mr Noel Dorr, and I hope that it can be agreed that the Ambassador at Dublin, Mr Alan Goodison, should be present on our side. You may also like to consider whether the Head of Republic of Ireland Department here (whose predecessor attended the 1983 Summit) should attend as record taker. He is a member of the restricted group and it would certainly be helpful to him in regard to follow-up action.

As it is possible that no solution will have been reached by then on the question of European Community budgetary discipline, it seems desirable to make contingency arrangements for the Chancellor of the Exchequer to attend the Summit meeting also, but this may well not prove necessary in the event. As far as can be foreseen now, there are no other major bilateral issues which would necessitate any further ministerial presence on the British side.

/In view

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In view of the restriction of the agenda to Anglo-Irish relations and possibly Community affairs we shall carry out a much more restricted briefing exercise than usual.

We have asked the Irish authorities to prepare a draft programme.

Briefing for the press last year was undertaken by the Press Secretary at No 10. I assume that Mr Ingham will take charge of these arrangements again this year.

I am copying this letter to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office), Graham Sandiford (NIO) and David Peretz (Treasury).

*Yours ever,*

*Len Appleyard*

(L V Appleyard)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street

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Ireland: Meetings with the Taoiseach

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New York  
for [unclear]  
23 OCT 1984

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From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY



NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE  
WHITEHALL  
LONDON SW1A 2AZ

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON  
SW1

24 October 1984

Dear Charles,

Prime Minister  
Agree to  
include Sir  
Ewart Bell?

Yes  
no

CDP 24/10.

ANGLO-IRISH SUMMIT

The Secretary of State has seen Len Appleyard's letter to you of 23 October about the arrangements for the forthcoming Summit. He is generally content with what is proposed; but he would very much like to be accompanied by Sir Ewart Bell, the Head of the Northern Ireland Civil Service, as well as by Mr Andrew. Sir Ewart, who has now been brought into the restricted group, would be the only person present who actually lives in Northern Ireland and Mr Hurd believes that it would be particularly useful to have his advice.

I understand that Sir Ewart Bell attended the last Summit in addition to Sir Philip Woodfield (Mr Andrew's predecessor) and, while appreciating the need to keep the official party as small as possible, Mr Hurd hopes that the Prime Minister will agree that he should again be included.

I am copying this letter to Len Appleyard, Richard Hatfield and David Peretz.

Yours sincerely,

Graham Sandiford

G K SANDIFORD

ssd

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meetings with Taoisead. IRELAND. Pt 7.

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*file to*

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

23 October, 1984.

Anglo-Irish Summit: Ashford Castle, Republic of Ireland

Thank you for your letter of 23 October about the arrangements for the Anglo-Irish Summit.

A final decision on whether to go to Ashford Castle waits on a security assessment being prepared by the Cabinet Office.

I agree with your proposed list of participants including the Ambassador at Dublin and, subject to confirmation, the Head of Republic of Ireland Department.

I do not exclude the possibility that, for tactical and presentational reasons, we may want to have some discussion of Community affairs at the Summit. This could require the addition of one or two further officials. But there is no need for a decision on this yet.

I am copying this letter to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office), Graham Sandiford (Northern Ireland Office), and David Peretz (HM Treasury).

C.D. Powell

Len Appleyard, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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10 DOWNING STREET

MKJAFQ

cpc.

file

From the Private Secretary

5 October 1984

Dear Sir,

Anglo/Irish Summit

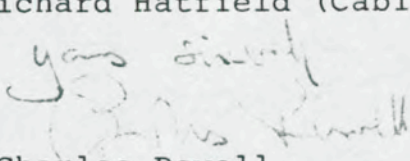
It was agreed when Dr. Fitzgerald visited London on 3 September that the next Anglo/Irish Summit should be held on 19 November. The venue was left open.

I understand from Sir Robert Armstrong that the Irish Government propose that the Summit should be held at Ashford Castle, where President Reagan stayed during his visit to the Republic. The Prime Minister is agreeable to this. I should be grateful if, in consultation with the Cabinet Office, you could arrange for the Irish authorities to be informed.

We also need to decide the detailed arrangements. The Prime Minister would prefer if possible to go there and back on 19 November. But she would be ready if necessary to fly to Ireland on the evening of 18 November for a dinner. In that case she would expect the Summit to finish at lunchtime on 19 November and to return immediately thereafter to the United Kingdom. I should be grateful if this could be explored further with the Irish Government. We shall also need to settle the composition of the UK delegation for the Summit. I should be grateful for a recommendation in due course.

Knowledge of the precise date of the Summit should be held very closely and no announcement made without consulting the Prime Minister.

I am sending copies of this letter to Graham Sandiford (Northern Ireland Office) and Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely  
  
Charles Powell

Len Appleyard Esq  
 Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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