

# NATIONAL ARCHIVES

## IRELAND



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# ROINN AN TAOISIGH

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SECRET

## Meeting with British Prime Minister

The British Ambassador, Mr. Alan Goodison, called this morning and left the attached "Proposed Programme" for the forthcoming meeting between the Taoiseach and the British Prime Minister.

I said that the Taoiseach had in mind a free-ranging discussion, on a tete-a-tete basis, with the Prime Minister for about two hours. There could then be a photocall, in which the Tanaiste, and Minister for Foreign Affairs, would participate. The meeting could then resume, for a brief period, in plenary session. The Ambassador took note of these suggestions.

I also said that it would be a good idea to leave some flexibility on the suggested time for departure - as the discussions might well run on, at some point.

I mentioned that the subjects which the Taoiseach would probably want to cover included, in particular, the post-Suttgart negotiations and the future of the Community, with particular reference to Ireland and the effects of the Super Levy - (to which the British are also opposed, as the Ambassador indicated, clearly in his talk at an ICEM lecture last night.) The Taoiseach would also wish to mention the AIIC process, including the Parliamentary tier. References to the Forum would have to be dealt with, with particular care. The political situation in Northern Ireland, and in particular, how the Prime Minister saw the future, would be matters of particular concern. There would also be a number of security issues.

I said that I thought the Taoiseach might also wish to touch on other international issues, including the world economic outlook.

The Ambassador said that, on his briefing, this outline was what the Prime Minister would be looking to also.

I mentioned that the Tanaiste might be meeting with the Leader of the British Labour Party, if he were available, at the time of the tete-a-tete between the Taoiseach and Prime Minister; but if Mr. Kinnoch were not available then, that the Tanaiste would join the Minister for the separate discussions with the Foreign Secretary and the Northern Ireland Secretary. It appeared to the Ambassador and I that these discussions could usefully touch on certain aspects of the Northern Ireland situation, other bilateral issues, and Community affairs. The

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Ambassador mentioned, in particular, that he had been trying to arrange a meeting in Dublin for Mr. Rifkin, Minister of State for Community Affairs, but so far, without success. There were many issues of mutual concern, on the Community front at present.

In the plenary session, which would be short, the Prime Ministers might review the AIIC process, and the difficulties of the European Community, as well, if there were time, as wider world affairs of common interest.

The Ambassador mentioned that he thought it might be useful if he could give an outline of the Taoiseach's views, of what might be discussed, to the Prime Minister, in advance, so that she could prepare herself. I said that I thought the Taoiseach would regard this suggestion favourably - and that I would contact him again as soon as I could, on the point.

There was some brief discussion on the meeting with Sir Robert Armstrong, to take place, next Wednesday, 2nd November.

27th October, 1983.

(Copy to Mr. Michael Lillis, Assistant Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs.)



ANGLO-IRISH SUMMIT: PROPOSED PROGRAMME

1 1/2 hrs.  
14 -

Monday, 7 November

- 0950 Participants arrive at Chequers. Greeted by Prime Minister, Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.
- 1000 Tete-a-tete between Prime Minister and Taoiseach.  
Other Ministers meet, with officials, in another room.  
Thereafter plenary session.
- 1300 Lunch.
- 1430 Departure.