

C O N F I D E N T I A L

ASST/ SEC 51/4
-4 APR 1996
C.G.R.U.

FROM: J M STEELE
DIRECTOR (SECURITY)

PA-525/92

3 April 1996

Mr. Casos..

Do. Rie..

S. 5 / 4..

DESK IMMEDIATE

cc PS/Secretary of State (B & L)
PS/PUS (B & L)
PS/Sir David Fell
Mr Thomas
Mr Legge
Mr Watkins
Mr Leach
Mr Maccabe
Mr Perry o/r
Mr Clarke
Ms McGimpsey

UNDER/ SEC 16/4
-3 APR 1996
CENT SEC

Mr Casos

S.

Mr Casos / 4.4

PS/SIR JOHN WHEELER (B & L)

S. 5 / 4..

Excellent. Hope it holds. 3.4

PARADES

DCC Ronnie Flanagan telephoned this morning to let me know the current situation in relation to the Easter Monday Apprentice Boys' march on Ormeau Road following a meeting he had with the Apprentice Boys on the evening of 2 April.

2. The position is as follows -

- (i) the RUC have issued a re-routing order which has the effect of preventing the march proceeding beyond Ormeau Bridge;
- (ii) the Apprentice Boys intend to make a token protest at the Bridge, lasting about an hour and a half;

C O N F I D E N T I A L

EPC/9616

C O N F I D E N T I A L

(iii) only those Apprentice Boys directly involved will appear at the Bridge, although token protests are likely to be held in other parts of the city; and

(iv) the RUC intend to police all these events relatively lightly.

3. If it all comes off as planned this is not a bad outcome to a very difficult situation and Mr Flanagan is to be congratulated.

4. I should emphasise that Mr Flanagan regards it as important that there should be no hint in advance that there is any agreement between the Apprentice Boys and the RUC. The re-routing order is now public knowledge - Madden and Finucane have been informed - which should shut down Sinn Fein and LOCC activity for 8 April.

5. I have to add that this is a very good start to Mr Flanagan's start as DCC (Ops) and a very good omen for other difficult marches later in the year.

[sgd]

J M STEELE

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