

IF Douglas can't come
ack Toxday

cc Sir Percy Cradock
Gus O'Donnell

for EC matters 7.16.2

PRIME MINISTER

VISIT OF THE IRISH PRIME MINISTER, MR. REYNOLDS: 26 FEBRUARY

I have now agreed with Dermot Nally that the Taoiseach will come for talks with you and a working supper on Wednesday, 26 February. He will arrive at 1830 with a view to an hour's private talk followed by supper at 1930. He will probably bring his new Foreign Minister, Mr. Andrews. I have told the Irish that you are likely to want to be accompanied by the Foreign Secretary, the Northern Ireland Secretary and Sir Robin Butler.

The Irish would like to announce the visit on Tuesday. I said that we would do the same. We would say that when you and Mr. Reynolds had spoken on the telephone you had agreed to meet. The purpose of your discussions would be to discuss bilateral, EC and other issues of mutual interest.

OK— The Foreign Secretary is due to attend an expensive and potentially profitable Conservative Party fundraising dinner on the evening of 26 February. He assumes you would wish him to stick to that. I think that must be right especially given the fact that Mr. Brooke will be present. If you agree, I will explain to the Irish that the Foreign Secretary cannot get out of this prior engagement (but I shall not be specific as to what it is).

J. S. Wall

RP (J.S. WALL)

14 February 1992