

UNCLASSIFIED

FM FCO 061130Z JAN 82

TO PRIORITY CERTAIN MISSIONS AND DEPENDENT TERRITORIES  
GUIDANCE TELEGRAM NUMBER 1 OF 6 JANUARY 1982

PROSECUTION OF TERRORISTS BY THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

1. TWO OF THE EIGHT PRISONERS WHO ESCAPED FROM CRUMLIN ROAD PRISON, BELFAST, ON 10 JUNE 1981 WERE SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS' IMPRISONMENT IN THE (NON-JURY) SPECIAL CRIMINAL COURT IN DUBLIN ON 23 DECEMBER 1981 ON CHARGES RELATING TO THEIR ESCAPE. THEY WERE ROBERT JOSEPH CAMPBELL AND MICHAEL JAMES RYAN, BOTH OF WHOM HAD BEEN ARRESTED IN THE REPUBLIC AND CHARGED UNDER THE EXTRATERRITORIAL CRIMINAL LAW JURISDICTION ACT 1976, WHICH ENABLES THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND TO PROSECUTE THOSE WHO HAVE COMMITTED CRIMES IN NORTHERN IRELAND. (THE PARALLEL LEGISLATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND IS THE CRIMINAL JURISDICTION ACT 1975).
2. EACH PRISONER RECEIVED A 10 YEAR SENTENCE FOR USING A FIREARM IN THE COURSE OF THE ESCAPE, 8 YEARS FOR PRODUCING A FIREARM, 8 YEARS FOR POSSESSION OF A FIREARM WITH INTENT TO COMMIT GRIEVOUS BODILY HARM AND 5 YEARS FOR ESCAPING FROM LAWFUL CUSTODY, SENTENCES TO RUN CONCURRENTLY. THEY WERE BOTH ACQUITTED OF ATTEMPTED MURDER. ANOTHER TWO OF THE ESCAPERS ARE IN CUSTODY IN THE REPUBLIC, INCLUDING ONE RECAPTURED ON 3 JANUARY 1982 IN CORK.

LINE TO TAKE

3. THIS IS A WELCOME DEVELOPMENT AS IT IS THE FIRST TIME THAT THERE HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTIONS IN THE REPUBLIC UNDER THE RECIPROCAL LEGISLATION. IT USEFULLY ILLUSTRATES THE CLOSE CO-OPERATION WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN THE POLICE FORCES IN BOTH PARTS OF IRELAND. HOWEVER, WE ARE LOOKING FOR GREATER IMPROVEMENTS WITH ARRANGEMENTS FOR ENSURING THAT SUSPECTED TERRORISTS CANNOT ESCAPE JUSTICE BY FLEEING FROM ONE JURISDICTION TO THE OTHER. THIS ISSUE IS CURRENTLY THE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND IRISH ATTORNEYS GENERAL.

CARRINGTON

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