

From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

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NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE  
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John Coles Esq  
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8 July 1983

Prime Minister

Would you like any of these books  
for the holiday? A.F.C. 5/7.

Dear John

When Mr Prior met the Prime Minister on 16 May he offered to send her a reading list on Northern Ireland. I attach such a reading list which we have had prepared and which the Secretary of State believes would be a useful list.

Yours ever

Dave

D A HILL

Enc

mf

July Dave

Pl. obtain the first book  
on the list.

A.F.C. 1/2.

Requested from A.I.D.  
② 11/7

KL

## E.R.

### SUGGESTED READING LIST

Ireland Since the Famine - F S L Lyons ✓

The most comprehensive book on modern Irish history. Reasonably well-balanced. Lengthy and turgid in places but useful for dipping into. Recommended passages, all of which are in Part III, are:-

Chapter 5 - for the campaign against the British which led to the 1921 treaty.

Chapter 6 - for the Irish Civil War following the treaty.

Section A2(iv) pages 554-558. For Irish neutrality in the Second World War.

Section B1(pages 695-705 and B5(pages 738-759) for Northern Ireland.

A Place Apart - Dervla Murphy

*Have read - more than once.*

A fairly recent (1978) impression of attitudes of both parts of the Northern Ireland community. Good insights, generally fair and well written.

A Short History of Ireland - J C Beckett

A short, sound traditional (primarily political) history by a Professor of History at Queens University, Belfast. The chapters on the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries give the essential background on that span of history.

Ulster since 1800 - Edited by T W Moody and J C Beckett

This is twelve talks broadcast in the Northern Ireland Home Service of the BBC in 1955 and contains excellent short pieces on a range of political, constitutional, economic and social issues.

The Constitution of Northern Ireland : Problems and Prospects -

Edited by David Watt

Proceedings of a seminar on Northern Ireland. Includes some very good contributions, and the work overall is an intelligent discussion of contemporary Northern Ireland questions.