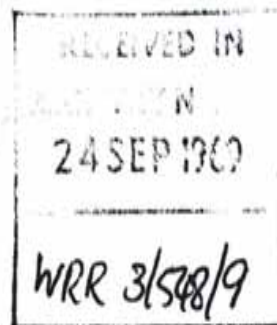


SECRET AND PERSONAL

(405)



24 September 1969

When you were over here we spoke about the enclosed copy of a letter from No.10 about Major McDowell, and you agreed to take appropriate action.

In view of the second paragraph of the enclosure I am marking this Secret and Personal.

(W.E.K. White)

H.M. Ambassador,  
Dublin.

c.c.:-

Mr. Allinson, P.U.S.D.

WED to inform Dublin please.



SECRET

10 Downing Street  
Whitehall

September 16, 1969.

Dear Valerie.

As I told you on the telephone earlier this afternoon, Major McDowell, the Managing Director of the Irish Times in Dublin, contacted a member of the Political Office here to say that he was at the Naval and Military Club and felt that he could be of some use with regard to the situation in Northern Ireland. In the event it was not possible to contact Major McDowell before he left London.

I have discussed this with the Prime Minister, and he thinks that it would be desirable for our Embassy in Dublin to make contact with Major McDowell when he gets back. He thinks that Major McDowell's offer of assistance may relate more to intelligence than to journalistic activity.

I am sending copies of this letter to Cubbon (Home Office) and Lloyd Jones (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely,

Peter Cresson

Mrs. V. Hartles, M.B.E.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.