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22 Mean Fómhair, 1965.

Dear McCann,

In reply to your letter of today about the forthcoming visit to Cork of H.M.S. Lofoten, the Taoiseach agrees with your suggestion that the occasion of replying to yesterday's approach to your Department on the matter by the Counsellor of the British Embassy might be taken to convey a gentle hint that the British are unwise in proposing such visits if the net result is counter-productive from the point of view of improving relations between the two countries.

I am today sending a copy of this letter to Berry.

Yours sincerely,

M. S. ÓNualláin

H.J. McCann, Esq.,
Secretary,
Department of External Affairs.

Peter Berry, Esq.,
Secretary,
Department of Justice.

Mar eolas.

M. S. ÓNualláin

CONFIDENTIAL


Taoiseach,

Please see.

Would you approve A, please?

ROINN GNÓTHAÍ EACHTRACHA

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS


 22.9.65
BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH
DUBLIN

22 Meán Fómhair, 1965.

Dear Ó Nualláin,

Further to our telephone conversation this afternoon, I send herewith a copy of a report of a conversation yesterday afternoon between Carter of the British Embassy and the Third Secretary in the Protocol Section about the visit of H.M.S. "Lofoten" to Cork next month.

While we have tolerated a number of visits of this kind where the Departments of Defence and Justice see no objection, my Minister's general attitude to British proposals of this nature is that they are unwise even from their own point of view to be pushing this kind of activity. In view of the adverse reaction from a section of our people and the consequent adverse publicity the net result benefits neither Britain nor Ireland.

A | If the Taoiseach is disposed not to take any action about cancelling the visit of the "Lofoten" the occasion of replying to the approach of Carter of the British Embassy might be taken to hint gently that they are unwise in proposing such visits if the net result is counter-productive from the point of view of improving relations between the two countries.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. N. S. Ó Nualláin,
Rúnaí,
Roinn an Taoisigh.