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CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIALBRITISH EMBASSY,
DUBLIN.

Your ref: 306/44/20

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6 October, 1965.

*Dear Sir,*Visit of "Lofoten"

I am writing to confirm our conversation this afternoon about the unavoidable cancellation of the visit of the "Lofoten". The Ministry of Defence in London have advised us that the "Lofoten" is required to undertake exercises followed by operational duties at Le Havre in the week commencing 10 October. They regret, therefore, that the visit to Cork from 12 - 17 October must unavoidably be cancelled or at least postponed.

In conveying this information to you we have been asked to express the regret of the British Government for this change of plan and for the short notice of the cancellation.

I should add that since there has been no official statement from London that the visit had been arranged, the British authorities do not consider that a statement about the cancellation of the visit is called for in London. If, however, any enquiries arise the above explanation will be given. We will, of course, give this explanation to any enquirers in the Irish Republic.

In accordance with your request I am sending a copy of this letter to the Commanding Officer, Naval Service.

Yours sincerely,
P. A. Carter
(P. A. Carter)

G. Woods, Esq.,
Department of External Affairs,
Dublin 2.

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