



## **An Chartlann Náisiúnta** **National Archives**

<b>Reference Code:</b>	2019/31/13
<b>Creator(s):</b>	Department of the Taoiseach
<b>Accession Conditions:</b>	Open
<b>Copyright:</b>	National Archives, Ireland. May only be reproduced with the written permission of the Director of the National Archives.

1027

# ROINN AN TAOISIGH

Misc.  
F. 2.

Uimhir.....

## Northern Ireland: South African involvement

Ambassador Fenn, phoned at approximately 2.30 p.m. today saying that the Foreign Office would be requiring the withdrawal of three South African diplomats from London. This would be done within about the next five minutes.

The FCO are not suggesting that these diplomats themselves were involved in the arms affair. They simply want to register the grave concern of the British Government that South Africa should be trying to acquire advanced missile technology knowing that the funds involved would be used by Ulster extremists - of any persuasion.

The Ambassador was anxious that the Taoiseach should know immediately of the proposed action.

I thanked him for his message and said that I would convey it as requested.

5 May 1989

cc Secretary Dorr, Department of Foreign Affairs

Taigh  
Taoiseach  
9/5  
[Signature]

[Signature]  
5/5  
Mr. McCarthy  
[Signature]  
8-5-89.

1989

No 27

British Statement 5 May 1989

Mr K. Murphy

8-5-89.

Mr. H. H. H.

8/5

## BRITAIN REQUESTS WITHDRAWAL OF THREE SOUTH AFRICAN DIPLOMATS

- On the instructions of the Secretary of State, the Permanent Under Secretary of State, Sir Patrick Wright, summoned the South African Ambassador, Mr Rae Killen, to the Foreign Office this afternoon.
- Sir P Wright said that we had considered carefully the South African Government's response, in particular General Malan's statement to the SA Parliament on 3 May. We noted their expressions of regret.
- However, the SAC should be under no illusions about the grave concern with which HMG viewed the involvement by SA officials in this affair, having regard to the UN arms embargo as well as the security situation in Northern Ireland where the lives of innocent people are at risk.
- Because of the gravity of this affair, HMG had decided that the SAC should be requested to withdraw three members of SA Embassy. They should leave the UK within 7 days.
- The South African Ambassador was told that any retaliation would be entirely unjustified.

cc : PSS / Mr Nally  
 Mr Gallagher  
 Mr P. Murphy  
 Mr R. D. Toole

cl 5/5