



An Chartlann Náisiúnta
National Archives

Reference Code: 2019/31/54

Creator(s): Department of the Taoiseach

Accession Conditions: Open

Copyright: National Archives, Ireland.
May only be reproduced with
the written permission of the
Director of the National
Archives.

0081C

TO HQ FROM BELFAST
3 FEBRUARY 1989

/////

FOR ASST. SEC. GALLAGHER

FROM S. O HUIGINN

RE: DUISBURG

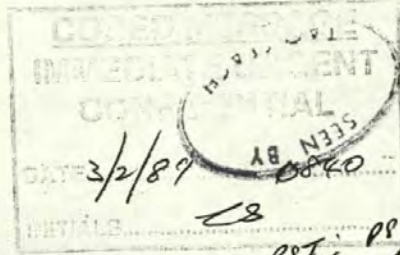
I SPOKE TO MR. MILES ON THIS TONIGHT. WE HAD ALREADY GIVEN THE BRITISH SIDE THE "BLACKS" OF THE TAOISEACH'S DAIL INTERVENTION. HE AGREED THAT IT WAS QUITE UNFAIR OF THE BBC REPORT TO LINK THE BREAKING OF THE DUISBURG STORY WITH THE TAOISEACH'S GUARDED REMARKS AND FELT GENERALLY THAT THE BBC REPORT HAD BLOWN THE MATTER OUT OF ALL PROPORTION. WE SPECULATED THAT THE EMPHASIS ON THE ALLIANCE PARTY ROLE POINTED TO THAT AS THE SOURCE OF THE LEAK, PRESUMABLY TO GAIN PUBLICITY FOR MAWHINNEY AND THE PARTY GENERALLY. THE NIO PROPOSED TO TAKE A LOW PROFILE AND WOULD SAY NOTHING OR, IF PRESSED, MERELY CONFIRM IN A LOW KEY WAY THAT THEY KNEW OF THE TALKS AND APPROVED OF THEM. I ASKED TO BE KEPT INFORMED OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS AND CONFIRMED THAT WE TOO INTENDED TO REFRAIN FROM SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT ON THE ISSUE.

ENDS
/////

1290

/////

Not fully - also want
approved at the post-Duisburg
contacts which were exclusively
between the SAHP and the Unionists
and at least excluded from the
Hume/Paisley/Holyrood visit to
the Sec of State about the
shit & shit
DTS/



BST, P84
M. Kelly: P88
Gov Press Sec; Mr. Hume
(3) Conlon M1