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TO: HQ FROM: BELFAST

14 MAY 1990

IMMEDIATE

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FOR: B. MCMAHON FROM: A. HARWOOD

CRUMLIN ROAD PRISON PROTEST

BRITISH SIDE HAVE GIVEN US FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF THE INCIDENT:

IT BEGAN AT 18.03 HRS WHEN 2 LOYALIST PRISONERS WERE ASSAULTED BY REPUBLICANS. ONE OF THE LOYALISTS WAS HOSPITALISED AS A RESULT. 22 LOYALISTS THEN TOOK OVER A2 DINING HALL WHILE 24 LOYALISTS TOOK OVER A3. 5 OF THOSE IN A3 SOON SURRENDERED BUT 6 OTHERS GOT ON TO THE ROOF AND CARRIED OUT A PROTEST. SOME SLATES WERE THROWN FROM THE ROOF.

CRUMLIN ROAD WAS THEN BLOCKED OFF BY THE BRITISH ARMY AND RUC. THE ROOFTOP PROTESTERS EVENTUALLY GAVE THEMSELVES UP BUT THE 2 A-WING DINING HALLS REMAINED OCCUPIED BY THE PRISONERS OVERNIGHT. PRISON OFFICERS FORCIBLY BROKE INTO THEM AND RE-TOOK THEM EARLY THIS MORNING AND 6 OFFICERS WERE INJURED IN THE ACTION. NO DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE RE PRISONERS' INJURIES. AT 06.36 HRS ALL PRISONERS WERE LOCKED UP AGAIN. A-WING WILL BE CLOSED TO-DAY.