

E. D.

CONFIDENTIAL

RW/32/88

cc. Mr Spence

Mr S Hewitt

LOYALIST DECORATIONS

1. The Irish side of the Secretariat have expressed concern about the display of loyalist bunting allegedly erected outside the Lovell and Christmas factory at Agivey near Ballymoney. Apparently the bunting is displayed on British Telecom poles and the Catholic members of the workforce (approximately half of the 120 employees) have taken great exception to passing through this bunting to enter the factory premises. I understand that the Roman Catholic workers have refused to go into the factory but there has been no mention of this in the local media.
2. It appears that a local Councillor (Councillor Dallet) has raised the matter with the management of the factory and British Telecom but the latter apparently do not wish to get involved and the former are to all intents and purposes helpless. My point in writing to you, however, is that we have been told that the RUC allegedly apprehended a number of people who were erecting the bunting and I wonder if you have any further information on any police action in respect of the matter, and its possible resolution. Is there anything that we can say to the Irish in this respect?

Jim E. Harms

for

R WILSON
Central Secretariat
8 July 1988
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