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Lord Nicholas Gordon Lennox  
FCO  
London

Your reference

Our reference

Date  
5 June 1981

*Lee*  
1A/6

*Dear Nicky,*

PRIME MINISTER'S STORMONT SPEECH, 28 MAY

1. The Prime Minister's visit of 28 May to Belfast received extensive coverage in the US media. In information terms the Stormont speech was the highlight; and we and BIS were very grateful for the speed and efficiency of transmission to us of both text and radio broadcast.
2. If I may say so, I thought the speech struck exactly the right note, and made the right points at the right time. We made extensive use of it.
3. BIS fed four radio cuts to all ten US radio networks, and all but NBC have confirmed that they were used. These nine networks supply more than 7000 radio stations, and we know that some networks used the cuts several times. BIS also fed the cuts to Ecumedia, the religious news agency reaching several hundred stations; they too confirm use. This amounts to exceptional coverage.
4. BIS distributed the text to editorial recipients nation-wide. In addition, the Ambassador sent copies immediately, under a personal letter, to the Vice President, Ed Meese at the White House, Secretary Haig, Dick Allen at the National Security Council, Senators Kennedy and Moynihan and Speaker O'Neill (Governor Carey was covered from New York), and to Senator Percy and Congressman Zablocki, Chairmen respectively of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Meese went out of his way to tell the Ambassador how very much he had admired both the clarity and the humanity of the speech; it is very probable that he showed and commended it to the President.

*Yours ever*

*Peter*

Peter Hall

cc: D Gilliland Esq, NIO Belfast  
P Nixon, Esq, BIS New York