

SECRET

Case (int)

RS

Northern Ireland Office
Stormont Castle
Belfast BT4 3ST



Lt Gen Sir Harry Tuzo KCB OBE MC MA
Headquarters
Northern Ireland Command
LISBURN
Co Antrim

6 November 1972

Case (int)

Dear Harry

Things we have no comments.

My letter of 1 September 1972 set out the categories of people in respect of whom I would be prepared to consider making detention orders.

The new Detention of Terrorists Order came into effect on Monday, 6 November, and I am writing to explain the policy which I propose to follow in considering applications for interim custody, ie detention for up to 28 days pending a charge or referral to a commissioner.

As far as the Provisional IRA is concerned, I am prepared to consider signing interim custody orders against officers in the categories set out in paragraph 3 of my letter of 1 September, with the addition of training officer and "director of operations" who fall within the terms of section 4(1) of the Order. I will also consider on their merits applications in respect of other officers and volunteers whom the evidence appears to bring within the scope of section 4(1) and who can be shown to be a serious threat to security.

Similar criteria should be applied should it become necessary to submit applications in respect of members of the Official IRA.

In view of recent developments, Protestant terrorists may fall to be dealt with under the new Order. It is not possible at the moment to define the categories which I will be prepared to consider for interim custody and for the time being I will consider applications in respect of them on their merits.

I should be grateful if the procedures described in paragraph 4 of my letter of September could continue.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Graham Shillington.

*Yours
Harry Tuzo*

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ASUS (GS)
Asst Sec
Principal
HED
Copy
File No. <i>41115</i>
RS <i>5327</i>

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