

OPS

Subject on Ireland, Oct '79,
Internal Situation in Eire.

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 239/82

17th December 1982

Dear Prime Minister

Thank you for your very kind message of congratulations on my election.

I look forward to working with you on the many matters of common interest. In particular, I look forward to working with you, in a spirit of friendship and cooperation, to improve our bilateral relationship of such crucial importance to both our countries. The tragic situation in Northern Ireland - a dominant feature in that relationship, which has so much potential for even greater tragedy - requires that we give it the highest priority in the months and years ahead.

In that connection, I have asked the Minister for Foreign Affairs to undertake a complete review of the position and he will no doubt be in touch with your colleagues as soon as that review has been completed.

I look forward to having the opportunity, when the ground work has been done, of considering together the many matters of concern to our two countries.

May I in conclusion wish you all the compliments of the season.

Yours very sincerely

Garret FitzGerald