

GRPS 250

UNCLASSIFIED

FM DUBLIN 111225Z MAY 79

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 86 OF 11 MAY

AND TO IMMEDIATE NIO BELFAST

INFO ROUTINE WASHINGTON AND MODUK

*Inland*

*Enlu na*

*BM*

*14/5*

MEETING BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTER AND MR LYNCH;  
PRESS REACTION

1. YESTERDAY'S MEETING BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTER AND MR LYNCH AT NO. 10 DOWNING STREET IS FRONT PAGE NEWS TODAY IN THE THREE MAIN DUBLIN DAILIES. MR LYNCH APPARENTLY DESCRIBED THE MEETING AS "WARM AND CORDIAL" AND IT CLEARLY EMERGES THAT THE TALKS WERE OF AN EXPLORATORY NATURE. MR LYNCH IS REPORTED TO HAVE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE NEW BRITISH GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE A POLITICAL INITIATIVE ON THE NORTH. THE PRIME MINISTER IS SAID TO HAVE LISTENED TO MR LYNCH'S VIEWS BUT TO HAVE SUGGESTED THAT SHE AND MR ATKINS WOULD NEED MORE TIME TO ACQUAINT THEMSELVES FULLY WITH THE CURRENT SITUATION IN THE NORTH BEFORE RESPONDING MORE DEFINITELY. ON CROSS BORDER SECURITY, MR LYNCH IS REPORTED TO HAVE POINTED OUT THAT FOR A LONG TIME THERE HAVE BEEN NO COMPLAINTS FROM THE BRITISH SIDE ABOUT SECURITY COOPERATION FROM THE REPUBLIC. MENTION IS ALSO MADE OF THE FACT THAT THE DISCUSSIONS TOUCHED BRIEFLY ON THE CAP AND THE EMS.

2. THE IRISH TIMES OFFERS THE ONLY EDITORIAL COMMENT IN WHICH IT STATES THAT BRITAIN AND THE REPUBLIC HAVE A COMMON INTEREST IN "NEGOTIATING THEMSELVES OUT OF A SHAMEFUL AND BLOODY FINAL ACT TO A LONG PAGEANT" AND CLAIMS THAT MR LYNCH WILL NOT HAVE GONE TO LONDON AS A SUPPLIANT. THE EDITORIAL ALSO SUGGESTS THAT IN DEALING WITH THE NORTHERN PROBLEM MRS THATCHER'S PRACTICALITY AS A WOMAN MAY HELP HER TO GET THROUGH TO THE ESSENTIALS "WOMEN HAVE OFTEN MORE CUTTING MINDS THAN MEN. THEY ARE LESS BEMUSED BY FANTASY AND MYTHOLOGY".

STAPLES

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