

SUBJECT

CONFIDENTIAL

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Ops.*

RS TO PM

OR 250

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PRIME MINISTER'S

FM FCO 301125Z AUG 79

PERSONAL MESSAGE

TO FLASH DUBLIN

SERIAL No. T 90 B/79T

TELNO 102 OF 30 AUG

INFO IMMEDIATE NIO (B), ROUTINE WASHINGTON.

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REFERENCE TODAY'S TELECON FERGUSSON/BARRIE.

POSSIBLE MEETING BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE TAOISEACH.

1. FOLLOWING IS CONFIRMATORY TEXT OF A LETTER DATED TODAY 30 AUGUST FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO MR JOHN LYNCH TD, AN TAOISEACH.

BEGINS:

I APPRECIATED YOUR LETTER OF CONDOLENCE OVER THE MURDER OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN, HIS GRANDSON NICHOLAS AND OF PAUL MAXWELL. YOU WILL KNOW THAT THE DOWAGER LADY BRADOURNE HAS SINCE DIED FROM HER TERRIBLE INJURIES.

I UNDERSTAND THAT AN INVITATION HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO YOU TO ATTEND LORD MOUTBATTEN'S CEREMONIAL FUNERAL WHICH IS TO TAKE PLACE AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY ON WEDNESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER. IF, AS I HOPE, YOU ARE COMING TO LONDON, I SHOULD FIND IT MOST VALUABLE IF WE COULD MEET DURING YOUR VISIT TO DISCUSS THIS TRAGIC AFFAIR AND ITS IMPLICATIONS. IF THIS IS ACCEPTABLE TO YOU I SUGGEST THAT OUR OFFICIALS MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS.

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2. IN THE LIGHT OF THE PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS AT YOUR END, UNDERSTAND YOU WILL ARRANGE FOR THE MESSAGE TO BE HANDED OVER TO MR LYNCH SOON AFTER MIDDAY TODAY. IN HANDING OVER MESSAGE YOU SHOULD SAY THAT PRIME MINISTER'S INVITATION RESULTS FROM THE COLLECTIVE DECISION OF CABINET THIS MORNING.

3. GRATEFUL CONFIRMATION BY TELEPHONE AS SOON AS MESSAGE DELIVERED.

CARRINGTON

FILES
RID PCD
NAD
OID
IPD
WED
MAED
NEWS DEPT
PS
PS/LPS
PS/MR HURD
PS/MR RIDLEY

PS/MR BLAKER
PS/PUS
SIR A DUFF
MR BULLARD
MR FERGUSON
LORD N G LENNOX
MISS BROWN

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