



BRITISH EMBASSY,
DUBLIN.

9 December 1980

M O'D B Alexander Esq
Private Secretary
No 10 Downing Street
London SW1

kg. V. Hunt 11/12

Dear Michael

1. You may remember just before lunch yesterday that when Mr Haughey was showing the Prime Minister the throne in the main central Throne Room he invited her to sit on it. She firmly disclaimed any intention of doing so but suggested he should do so if he wished. They both laughed and went off to lunch. Barney Smith, Head of Chancery, has now told me that after the press conference, which took place while we were going off in the helicopter to the airport, Haughey returned to the Throne Room, where a lot of his officials were still milling around and drinking. He then ascended the throne and sat on it, his feet not quite touching the floor, and told the company they should now all kneel. He has a good sense of fun, and we might as well take comfort from the fact that he clearly thought the day had gone well.

Yours

Leonard.

L C W Figg

Copied to:-

G G H Walden Esq
Private Secretary
Private Office
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London SW1