



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

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MODBA ✓  
Press ✓

10 DECEMBER, 1980.

*Dear Prime Minister*

THANK YOU FOR AGREEING TO LET ME PUT BEFORE YOU A LIST OF SOME OF THE SUBJECTS TO WHICH THE JOINT STUDIES MENTIONED IN THE DUBLIN COMMUNIQUE OF 8 DECEMBER MIGHT USEFULLY BE DIRECTED.

1. ARRANGEMENTS FOR EXTRADITION FROM THE REPUBLIC OF PERSONS CHARGED WITH SERIOUS OFFENCES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.
2. THE REMOVAL FROM THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE CLAIM TO INCLUDE IN ITS TERRITORY A PART OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.
3. A REVIEW OF THE CITIZENSHIP LAWS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES WITH A VIEW TO ELIMINATING (A) THE ANOMALOUS POSITION WHEREBY NATIONALS OF THE REPUBLIC POSSESS THE FRANCHISE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM (A HANG-OVER FROM THE TIME WHEN THE UNITED KINGDOM CONTINUED TO CONSIDER THE FREE STATE AS CONSTITUTIONALLY ANALOGOUS TO THE DOMINION OF CANADA) AND (B) THOSE PROVISIONS OF THE REPUBLIC'S CITIZENSHIP LAW WHICH AFFORD DUAL CITIZENSHIP TO UNDULY ~~EXTENDED~~ EXTENDED CATEGORIES OF PERSONS.
4. DELIMITATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FRONTIER IN THE FOYLE ESTUARY AND CARLINGFORD LOUGH AND OUTWARDS TO THE TWO HUNDRED MILE OR MEDIAN LIMITS.
5. MODIFICATION OF THE 'COMMON TRAVEL AREA' WITH A VIEW TO  
(A) THE ENFORCEMENT OF U.K. AND E.E.C. LAW ON MOVEMENT AND IMMIGRATION AND  
(B) BETTER IDENTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION OF PERSONS

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MOVING BETWEEN THE TWO STATES.

6. IMPROVED CO-OPERATION IN THE MAINTENANCE OF CUSTOMS AND SECURITY SURVEILLANCE ON THE COMMON FRONTIER.

THE ABOVE APPEAR TO US TO BE AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT AND URGENT TOPICS; BUT I AM SURE YOU WOULD PERMIT ME, IF OTHERS ARISE FROM TIME TO TIME, TO BRING THEM TO YOUR ATTENTION. PERHAPS, HOWEVER, AS I HAVE REFERRED TO THE TERMS OF THE COMMUNIQUE, I MIGHT APPEND CERTAIN OBSERVATIONS IN ORDER TO AVOID ANY DOUBT OR MISAPPREHENSION AS TO THE POSITION OF THE ULSTER UNIONIST PARTY.

*yours ever*

*Jim*

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE MRS MARGARET THATCHER, MP.  
10 DOWNING STREET,  
LONDON SW1.

From JAMES H. MOLYNEAUX, J.P., M.P. for Antrim, South.



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APPENDIX.

WHILE FAVOURABLE TO COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE REPUBLIC, WE BELIEVE THAT ANY STATE INTERVENTION DESIGNED TO PROMOTE AND ASSIST IT IS BEST CO-ORDINATED, WHEN NECESSARY, AT NATIONAL LEVEL, AND NOT AT THE LEVEL OF PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

WE CONSIDER THAT IT IS PROFOUNDLY MISCONCEIVED TO APPLY THE DESCRIPTION "DIVISION AND DISSENT" TO THE TERRORIST CAMPAIGN WAGED AGAINST NORTHERN IRELAND AND ITS PEOPLE WITH A VIEW TO DETACHING THEM FROM THE UNION, OR TO THE CONSEQUENCES FOR EVERY PART OF THE COMMUNITY WHICH THAT TERRORIST ATTACK HAS PRODUCED. IN DESIRING TO SEE AN END TO THAT CAMPAIGN, VIRTUALLY ALL THE PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND ARE AS ONE. THE END WILL ONLY COME WHEN THE AGGRESSORS ARE MADE TO UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR OBJECT IS UNATTAINABLE.

WE REGRET THAT THE ATTEMPT OF CERTAIN PRISONERS IN HM PRISONS TO EXTORT BY BREACH OF PRISON DISCIPLINE AND BY HUNGER STRIKING A STATUS WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAS RIGHTLY MADE IT CLEAR CAN NOT AND WILL NOT BE CONCEDED WERE DESCRIBED IN THE COMMUNIQUE AS "ISSUES" TO BE "RESOLVED" AND THAT THEY WERE BROUGHT WITHIN THE AMBIT OF DISCUSSIONS WITH ANOTHER GOVERNMENT. WE WOULD RESPECTFULLY REMIND YOU OF YOUR REPEATED ASSERTIONS THAT THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND ALL ITS PARTS ARE EXCLUSIVELY A MATTER FOR THIS COUNTRY AND FOR ITS PARLIAMENT AND GOVERNMENT, AND WE REGRET THAT THE DUBLIN MEETING AND THE COMMUNIQUE WILL BE WIDELY MISINTERPRETED AS CONFLICTING WITH THOSE ASSERTIONS.