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cc Miss Caines
Miss Wallace
Mr Murray

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1. MR POWELL CDR
2. PRIME MINISTER

ANGLO-IRISH SUMMIT

We shall confirm that an Anglo-Irish bilateral is being held at Chequers when Dr Fitzgerald has arrived. We shall give details of the main participants and a broad outline of the programme of talks.

We shall immediately arrange a photocall at Chequers for 9.15am on Monday morning, incorporating both British and Irish media. Mr Murray is in charge of this.

I consider it more sensible to remain at home on Sunday to handle the weight of traffic which will ensue once it is known the Summit is on. I shall arrive at Chequers for 9am, Monday.

I shall need briefing immediately after the dinner on Sunday evening, and Mr Powell has agreed to ring me.

I shall supply briefing to Jean Caines in London for the 11am Lobby on Monday.

We shall organise a press conference in No 12 for 5pm on Monday to be taken by the Prime Minister with Mr Hurd. We shall allow radio and television to record.

I shall prepare a brief for the Prime Minister during Monday. Mr Hurd is very anxious that we have 30 minutes or so before leaving Chequers to prepare for the press conference.

Finally, on Sunday, when asked why the Summit is taking place at Chequers, I shall take this line:

"In the aftermath of Brighton, Dr Fitzgerald very kindly suggested to the Prime Minister that to ease her burdens he would be very willing to come to London for the November 18/19 bilateral. The Prime Minister greatly appreciated this offer and it was agreed that, while

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Mrs Thatcher would normally have gone to the Republic, on this occasion it would be helpful to fall in with the Taoiseach's suggestion."

I have rehearsed this line with Dr Fitzgerald's Press Secretary who is very content.

[Handwritten signature]

BERNARD INGHAM
16 November 1984

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