htzgerald.

12th April 1979

Thank you very much indeed for yours kind letter about Airey. He was one of freedom's staunchest warriors who was so much looking forward to working in Northern Ireland. His loss has been a terrible blow to us all, particularly at such a crucial time. But Airey was a battler and I know he would now have wanted us to be even more determined to achieve a famous victory after this awful tragedy.

With best wishes.



## Foreign and Commonwealth Office London SW1A 2AH

Telephone 01- 233 5999

Private Secretary to The Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher MP House of Commons Lonodn SW1 Your reference

Our reference

Date

5 April 1979

Dear Private Secretary,

I enclose a letter of condolence from Dr FitzGerald, leader of the Fine Gael in the Republic of Ireland, to Mrs Thatcher. It has been forwarded via our Embassy in Dublin as the Irish postal strike prevents Dr FitzGerald sending it himself.

Jours sincerely,

D G Blunt Republic of Ireland Department