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FM DUBLIN 071545Z AUG 84
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 379 OF 7 AUGUST 1984
INFO ROUTINE UKREP BRUSSELS

YOUR TELNO 151: MEETING WITH DR FITZGERALD

1. DONLON HAS NOW CONFIRMED DR FITZGERALD'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S INVITATION TO A MEETING AT 12.00 NOON ON 3 SEPTEMBER FOLLOWED BY LUNCH. DR FITZGERALD INTENDS TO MEET PRESIDENT MITTERRAND DURING HIS CURRENT HOLIDAY IN FRANCE TOWARDS THE END OF AUGUST. HE WILL ALSO CALL ON CHANCELLOR KOHL TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES OF AGREEMENT ON BUDGETARY MATTERS BEFORE SEEING THE PRIME MINISTER.

2. I ASKED WHOM THE TAOISEACH WOULD BRING WITH HIM: HE SUGGESTED IT WOULD PROBABLY BE NALLY, DONLON AND FOGARTY, TOGETHER WITH MR BARRY IF AVAILABLE. I EMPHASISED THE PRIME MINISTER'S WISH THAT THE MEETING SHOULD BE VERY RESTRICTED. I HAD NO INDICATION THAT IT WAS PROPOSED THAT YOU SHOULD BE PRESENT. DONLON REPLIED THAT THEY WERE IN OUR HANDS AND THEY WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF WE WOULD SUGGEST THE FORMAT OF THE ENCOUNTER.

3. I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO REPLY. I SHOULD ALSO BE GRATEFUL FOR CONFIRMATION THAT YOU WISH ME TO BE IN LONDON ON THIS OCCASION.

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From the Private Secretary

8 August 1984

Dear Peter,

Prime Minister's Meeting with Dr. FitzGerald: 3 September

I have now seen a copy of Dublin telegram 379 proposing that the Taoiseach's party on 3 September should consist of Mr. Nally, Mr. Donlon and Mr. Fogarty, plus possibly Mr. Barry.

Before this news was received, the Prime Minister had reached the provisional view that on our side those present should be the Foreign Secretary, the Chancellor or the Economic Secretary, Sir Robert Armstrong and Mr. David Williamson.

At the Prime Minister's request, we are consulting the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (via Mr. Robert Andrew) to ascertain whether he too would wish to be present.

Yours ever,

David

(David Barclay)

Peter Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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file 5a
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MRS. GOODCHILD

Meeting and Lunch with Dr. FitzGerald:
3 September

Further to my letter of 8 August to Peter Ricketts about attendance at the above meeting, I have now heard from the Northern Ireland Office that Mr. Prior thinks it sensible for him not to be present.

David Barclay
15 August 1984

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