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30th June 1970

Dear Mr. Cosgrave,

I have your letter of last evening relating to the recent tragic events in the North.

I have given further consideration to your renewed request about the establishment of an All-Party Committee of the Dáil on Northern Ireland affairs but am still of the view that this would be an inappropriate arrangement. As an alternative, however, I am prepared to arrange to meet you and Mr. Corish together, on an ad-hoc basis, with a view to discussing, and keeping you informed on, affairs in the North. I would visualise that the meetings I suggest would be held fairly frequently, should circumstances so require.

The Government do not consider that it would be wise to provide Dáil time for a debate on the subject at the present time.

Yours sincerely,

J. Lynch

Liam Cosgrave, Esq., T.D.,
Dáil Éireann.
Dear Taoiseach:

In view of recent tragic events in Belfast and Derry, and with the purpose of avoiding any uninformed comment which could aggravate the situation I wish to renew the request which I made to you last August to agree to the establishment of an All-Party Committee of the Dail on Northern Ireland affairs.

I suggest in the circumstances that you, as Taoiseach, take the initiative in issuing invitations for such a Committee.

I assume that Dail time will be provided for a debate on the present situation.

Yours sincerely,

J. Lynch Esq. T.D.
Taoiseach
Government Buildings
DUBLIN 2