

**NATIONAL ARCHIVES**

**IRELAND**



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cc Mr. Neligan  
Mr. Walsh  
Mr. O'Leighin  
Mr. Siew

VIA WUI  
1529 11/12  
5300 B ESTR EI

*Hugh Swift*

UNCLASSIFIED

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TO HQ FROM WASHINGTON  
FOR HUGH SWIFT FROM MAIRTIN O'FAININ

FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF QUESTION AND ANSWERS FOLLOWING  
TAOISEACH'S NATIONAL PRESS CLUB SPEECH. PLEASE COPY TO  
POLITICAL SECTION. COPY ALSO IN AIRMAIL BAG TODAY.

*cc'd Mr. Dorr*

"MR ARTHUR E WIESE, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB,  
ASKED MR LYNCH THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS :

MR WIESE : FIRST QUESTION, MR PRIME MINISTER, IS, "WHY DO  
YOU PERSONALLY OPPOSE THE IDEA OF THE UNITED STATES MEDIATING  
THE NORTHERN IRELAND SITUATION? COULDN'T THE U.S. PLAY  
A USEFUL ROLE AS NON-INVOLVED ARBITER?"

MR LYNCH : WELL, I DON'T OPPOSE AMERICAN MEDIATION IN THIS  
SITUATION. I DON'T WANT TO INVOLVE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO  
THE EXTENT OF BEING MEDIATORS. THEY CAN BE MEDIATORS IN AREAS  
WHERE A DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM DOESN'T EXIST, BUT IN IRELAND WE  
HAVE A DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM. WE HAVE MEANS OF ELECTING  
PEOPLE WHO CLAIM TO REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF DIFFERENT SEGMENTS  
AND SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY.

AS WELL AS THAT, WE HAVE IN NORTHERN IRELAND, A GOVERNMENT,  
A BRITISH GOVERNMENT, WHO HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE  
ADMINISTRATION OF THE AREA AND THE PEACEFUL ADMINISTRATION  
OF THE AREA. WE BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE IN THE BRITISH  
GOVERNMENT IN THOSE WHO ARE GENUINELY ELECTED BY DEMOCRATIC  
MEANS, WHO CAN REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF THE VAST MAJORITY OF  
THE PEOPLE LIVING IN NORTHERN IRELAND, AND AS WELL AS THAT,  
YOU HAVE ONE OF PERHAPS THE MOST DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES IN  
THE WORLD IN THE REST OF IRELAND, IN THE IRISH REPUBLIC.

WE HAVE A SYSTEM OF PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION ON THE  
SINGLE TRANSFERRABLE VOTE SYSTEM WHICH IS POSSIBLY ONE, IF  
NOT THE MOST DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM. YOU HAVE ALREADY THE  
DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS, THE DEMOCRATIC MEANS OF SOLVING  
THIS PROBLEM. WE HAVE A GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM WHICH  
SEEMS TO PERMIT VIOLENCE AND UNREST IN ONE PART OF THE TERRITORY  
THAT IT CLAIMS LEGALLY. I THINK WE HAVE ALL WITHIN THE  
BRITISH GOVERNMENT, THE IRISH GOVERNMENT AND THOSE WHO ARE  
DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED IN NORTHERN IRELAND, ALL THE MEANS, ALL  
THE TOOLS, ALL THE IMPLEMENTS THAT CAN CREATE PROGRESS THERE  
WITHOUT OUTSIDE INTERVENTION.

ULTIMATELY, THE INITIATIVE WILL BE FOR THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, BUT THE ULTIMATE SOLUTION WILL BE A METHOD FOR SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE IRISH PEOPLE THEMSELVES.

I BELIEVE WE CANT ACCEPT, NOR WOULD WE ANTICIPATE IN ANY WAY THAT IMPOSED SOLUTIONS WOULD SOLVE THE SITUATION. IT MUST BE SOLUTIONS THAT COME FROM DISCUSSION BETWEEN OURSELVES, DISCUSSIONS THAT WOULD LEAD TO ACCEPTANCE OF INSTITUTIONS OF GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTIONS OF ADMINISTRATION THAT CAN BE SUSTAINED AND SUPPORTED BY THE DIFFERENCE FACTIONS WITHIN THE IRISH TERRITORY.

I DONT BELIEVE ANYBODY CAN DO THAT BETTER THAN OURSELVES, GIVEN THE INITIATIVE THAT WE ASK THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO MAKE, AND GIVEN WHAT I BELIEVE ULTIMATELY WILL BE THE GOOD WILL AND THE GOOD SENSE OF THE IRISH PEOPLE AS A WHOLE — UNIONISTS AND NATIONALISTS.

MR WIESE : WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RECENT ANGLO-IRISH AIR CORRIDOR AGREEMENT ON THE BORDER BETWEEN THE IRISH REPUBLIC AND NORTHERN IRELAND, AND WHY HAVE DETAILS OF THAT AGREEMENT NOT BEEN DISCLOSED?

MR LYNCH : WHEN I MET MRS THATCHER RECENTLY, I HAD ALREADY BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND THE FUNERAL OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN, THE EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA, AND HAVING HEARD THAT, MRS THATCHER INVITED ME TO COME AND TALK TO HER IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE FUNERAL ABOUT THE SITUATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND, BUT IT EMBRACED OTHER SUBJECTS AS WELL: FOR EXAMPLE, OUR MEMBERSHIP OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY.

AS IT HAPPENED, AND AS ONE CAN APPRECIATE BECAUSE OF THE IMMEDIATE IMPACT AND REPERCUSSIONS OF THE MURDER OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN, OF THE KILLINGS OF 16 OR 17 BRITISH SOLDIERS NORTH OF OUR BORDER, HER PREOCCUPATION SEEMED TO BE THAT OF SECURITY.

I POINTED OUT TO HER, NEVERTHELESS, THAT THERE WERE OTHER MATTERS AS WELL, THAT WE COULD DEAL WITH THE SYMPTOMS BUT WE HAD TO TACKLE THE SOURCE, THE ROOT OF THE DISEASE AS WELL. SHE AGREED TO DO THAT. BUT NEVERTHELESS, IN THE MEANTIME, WE AGREED THAT WE WOULD SEE TO WHAT EXTENT WE COULD IMPROVE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SECURITY FORCES NORTH AND SOUTH.

AND LET ME SAY, THERE HAS BEEN A HIGH DEGREE OF COOPERATION, AND THIS HAS BEEN ACKNOWLEDGED BY SUCCESSIVE BRITISH PRIME MINISTERS AND NOW I HAVE BEEN DELAING WITH FOUR OF THEM, I STILL SURVIVE. (I DONT KNOW HOW LONGER MORE.) BUT EACH OF THEM HAS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HIGH DEGREE OF COOPERATION THAT EXISTS.

BUT NEVERTHELESS, NO MATTER HOW GOOD ANY SITUATION AS YOU ALL KNOW, ANY SITUATION CAN BE IMPROVED. BUT WE DISCUSSED VER FRANKLY THAT DAY WHAT THE SHORT COMINGS MIGHT BE FROM ONE SIDE AND THE OTHER AND WE DISCUSSED HOW WE MIGHT IMPROVE THE SECURITY COOPERATION.

BUT WE AGREED THEN THAT WE WOULDNT DISCLOSE THE DETAILS OF ANY PROPOSALS THAT WERE MADE FROM ONE SIDE OF THE OTHER. AND MORE SO, WE AGREED THAT WHEN THE DETAILS WERE ULTIMATELY BEING DISCUSSED, AND PERHAPS AGREED UPON, THAT THESE WOULDNT BE DISCLOSED EITHER.

I THINK THATS THE ESSENCE OF SECURITY. THERE IS NO POINT IN TELLING YOUR ENEMY WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO DO TO OFFSET HIM OR TO OVERCOME HIM. OTHERWISE THERE IS NO POINT IN DRAWING UP SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS.

BUT MAY I SAY IN RELATION AND IN PARTICULAR TO THIS SO-CALLED AIR CORRIDOR — THATS WITHOUT FOUNDATION. THIS IS AN ASSUMPTION MADE BY CERTAIN PEOPLE THAT HAS VERY LITTLE BASIS IN FACT. SINCE 1952 WE HAVE HAD IN OUT LEGISLATION PROVISION WHEREBY — THE NAME IS "MILITARY OVERFLYING (FOREIGN AIRCRAFT) REGULATIONS: 1952", UNDER WHICH A MILITARY AIRCRAFT FROM ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT CAN FLY IN OVER OUR TERRITORY TO A VERY LIMITED EXTENT — CERTAINLY NOT A TEN MILE CORRIDOR — AFTER APPLICATION IS MADE AND ONLY AFTER APPLICATION IS GRANTED.

WE DECIDED TO IMPROVE THIS SITUATION VERY, VERY SLIGHTLY, BUT THERE IS CERTAINLY NO QUESTION OF A FREE CORRIDOR NORTH OR SOUTH, BETWEEN THE NORTH OR SOUTH OF IRELAND. AND THIS IS PERHAPS IN A MOTIVE PROBLEM IN OUR COUNTRY BECAUSE PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT SOMETHING HAS BEEN CONCEDED, SOME DEGREE OF OUR SOVEREIGNTY HAS BEEN SURRENDERED, THAT WASNT CONCEDED OR SURRENDERED BEFORE. THAT IS NOT THE FACT. WE HAVE IMPROVED INSOFAR AS WE CAN WITHOUT OUR RIGHTS THE SOVEREIGNTY OF OUR OWN TERRITORY, NO MORE THAN WAS AVAILABLE UNDER LEGISLATION GOING BACK AS FAR AS 1952, WHICH WAS AVAILED OF BY THREE OR FOUR SUCCESSIVE GOVERNMENTS.

SO, I'D LIKE TO, IF I CAN, EVEN THOUGH I KNOW I WONT SUCCEED BECAUSE ID BE MISREPRESENTED ANYWAY BY PEOPLE WHO WILL READ YOUR COMMENT, WE HAVENT IN ANY WAY GIVEN THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT OR ANYBODY, FOR THAT MATTER, THE RIGHT OF INVADING OUR SOVERIGN TERRITORY.

MAY I SAY BEFORE I SIT DOWN, IT WAS SUGGESTED AS WELL THAT THEY WERE GIVEN THE RIGHT OF HOT PURSUIT. AND THAT WAS COMPLETELY FALSE. IT WAS RAISED, OF COURSE, AS A POSSIBILITY BEFORE MY TALKS WITH MRS THATCHER, BEFORE MICHAEL O'KENNEDY'S TALKS WITH MR ATKINS, WHO IS THE SECRETARY FOR NORTHERN IRELAND. BUT IT WASNT PURSUED, AND IT WASNT DONE IN ANY EVENT. BUT SIMPLY, WE HAVE IMPROVED INSOFAR AS WE CAN, THE DEGREE OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SECURITY FORCES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER.

BUT THIS IS, MAY I SAY, A COSMETIC EXERCISE TO A LARGE EXTENT BECAUSE MOST OF THE VIOLENCE THAT OCCURS IN NORTHERN IRELAND EMANATES FROM WITHIN NORTHERN IRELAND, AND THE DEGREE OF VIOLENCE THAT MIGHT BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE BORDER IS VERY VERY TRIFLING INDEED BY COMPARISON WITH THE SCALE OF VIOLENCE THAT ALREADY OCCURS WITHIN NORTHERN IRELAND TERRITORY ITSELF, CREATED BY AND PERPETRATED BY PEOPLE WHO LIVE AND WORK AND PROMOTE THEIR ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE JURISDICTION AREA UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

MR WIESE : WHAT CONVINCES YOU THAT MOST ULSTER PROTESTANTS WOULD BE PREPARED, IN SAY FIVE OR TEN YEARS, FOR IRISH UNITY?

MR LYNCH : THE MONOLITH OF IRISH, NORTHERN IRISH UNIONISM DOESNT EXIST ANY MORE. WITHIN UNIONISM THERE ARE DIFFERENCE BELIEFS AND DIFFERENT ASPIRATIONS.

EVEN WITHIN THE OFFICIAL UNIONIST PARTY, WHICH IS THE TRADITIONAL UNIONIST PARTY, NOT ANY LONGER THE DOMINANT UNIONIST PARTY BECAUSE THERE IS THE DEMOCRATIC UNIONIST PARTY NOW CONTROLLED BY THE REV IAN PAISLEY, BUT EVEN WITHIN THE OFFICIAL UNIONIST PARTY, THERE ARE VARIOUS ASPIRATIONS. ON THE ONE SIDE, YOU HAVE THE LEADER OF THE PARTY, (MR MONINO) WHO WOULD FAVOR COMPLETE INTEGRATION WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM. ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE ARE PEOPLE WITHIN THAT PARTY WHO WANT THEIR OWN DEVOLVED GOVERNMENT.

BUT EVEN WITH DEVOLVED GOVERNMENT, OR EVEN WITH INTEGRATION, THE NORTHERN PROTESTANT WOULD HAVE VERY, VERY LITTLE TO SAY IN THE DETERMINATION OF HIS OWN AFFAIRS. AT THE MOMENT THEY REPRESENT ONE MILLION PEOPLE IN A TOTAL POPULATION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF ALMOST 60 MILLION PEOPLE. AND I BELIEVE THAT THE NORTHERN UNIONIST WOULD LIKE TO SAY IN THE DETERMINATION OF HIS OWN ACTIVITIES, OF HIS OWN SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL FUTURE.

I BELIEVE THAT IF IT WAS BORNE IN ON THE NORTHERN UNIONISTS THAT REPRESENTING ONE MILLION PEOPLE AS THEY DO, IN A TOTAL POPULATION OF FIVE MILLION PEOPLE IN IRELAND, THAT THEIR CLOUT, THEIR SAY, THEIR MUSCLE IN AN ALL-IRELAND CONTEXT WOULD BE FAR MORE EFFECTIVE THAN IT IS NOW IN WESTMINSTER, AND I AM CONVINCED THAT IF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT COULD GET ACROSS TO THE NORTHERN UNIONISTS THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR THEIR COOPERATING WITH THEIR FELLOW IRISHMEN, AND THAT NO LONGER SHOULD OR WILL THE BRITISH PUBLIC BE PREPARED TO TOLERATE, GIVING THIS ANNUAL SUBVENTION OF TWO BILLION DOLLARS A YEAR TO THE NORTH OF IRELAND, THAT THIS WILL ULTIMATELY BE BORNE IN ON NORTHERN UNIONISM.

AND AS WELL AS THAT, I AM CONVINCED THAT THE NORTHERN UNIONISTS WOULD BE A VERY POTENT FACTOR IN AN ALL-IRELAND CONTEXT AND THEY CERTAINLY WOULD HAVE FAR MORE INFLUENCE AND BE ABLE TO CHART THEIR OWN DESTINY MUCH MORE CAPABLY IN THAT CONTEXT THAN THEY CAN NOW IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AS IT STANDS, REPRESENTING AS THEY DO LESS THAN ONE AND A HALF PERCENT OR THEREABOUTS OF THE TOTAL POPULATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

MR WIESE : IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT ULSTER AND THE SO-CALLED IRISH PROBLEM IS REALLY A BRITISH PROBLEM NOW SEVEN CENTURIES OLD, AND THE SO-CALLED SECTARIAN DIVISION IS A SPAWN OF BRITISH TORY POLICIES, WHY CANT THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND SIMPLY PRESENT ITS CASE TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND DEMAND THAT THE BRITISH TROOPS GET OUT? SIMPLY PUT, WHY DOES THE REPUBLIC HAVE TO SUBMIT FOREVER TO A PARTITION OF IRELAND STILL SUPPORTED BY A FOREIGN INVADER?

MR LYNCH : PERHAPS I CAN GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE TO ILLUSTRATE THE PROBLEM WE HAVE HERE.

WHEN THE TROUBLES BROKE OUT IN 1969, WE COMMISSIONED OR INSTRUCTED OR DISPATCHED OUR MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, HE WAS THEN PATRICK HILLERY, NOW THE PRESIDENT OF IRELAND, TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND WE ASKED HIM TO RAISE THIS AS AN INTERNATIONAL ISSUE. BUT APPARENTLY THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER PROVIDES THAT UNLESS THE COUNTRY WHICH HAS SOVEREIGN JURISDICTION OVER A CERTAIN PIECE OF TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGES AND ACCEEDS TO THE UNITED NATIONS COMING IN TO EXERCISE JURISDICTION OVER THAT PART OF THIS TERRITORY, THEN THE UNITED NATIONS MAY NOT INTERVENE.

WE KNEW THAT BEFORE DR HILLERY SET OUT FOR THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK, BUT WE DELIBERATELY SENT HIM IN ORDER TO HIGHLIGHT THE DIFFICULTY THAT WE WERE FACED WITH HAVING THIS PROBLEM ENTRUSTED TO BRITAIN ALONE. THEY INSIST THAT THIS IS A BRITISH PROBLEM, EVEN THOUGH LATELY THEY HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED THE RIGHT OF OUR GOVERNMENT TO BE INVOLVED.

BUT BECAUSE OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AS LONG AS BRITAIN INSISTS THAT NORTHERN IRELAND IS NOT A MATTER PROPER TO INVESTIGATION OR TO DISCUSSIONS IN THE UNITED NATIONS, THEN, BECAUSE OF THE CHARTER, BECAUSE OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER, THE UNITED NATIONS MAY NOT INTERVENE. WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE UNITED NATIONS INVOLVED. WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THEM COME IN. WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THEIR PEACE KEEPING FORCES COME IN BECAUSE IT IS TRUE THAT THERE IS A CERTAIN PARTISANSHIP IN THE SECURITY FORCES IN NORTHERN IRELAND AT THE PRESENT TIME.

BUT AS LONG AS WE ARE BOTH MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS WE INTEND TO CONTINUE AS FULL MEMBERS, CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS IN THE SENSE THAT WE SEND OUR TROOPS TO OTHER TROUBLED PARTS OF THE WORLD — WE HAVE DONE TO THE CONGO, WE HAVE DONE TO CYPRUS, WE ARE NOW DOING IN LEBANON. WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THEREFORE WE CANT CHANGE THAT CHARTER; WE CANT INSURE THAT BRITAIN IN ANY WAY WILL PERMIT THE UNITED NATIONS TO INTERVENE IN THIS AREA. THEREFORE, AS I SAID AT THE BEGINNING, IT REMAINS A BRITISH AND IRISH PROBLEM THAT CAN BE BEST SOLVED, AND PERHAPS IN THE LONG-RUN ONLY SOLVED BY BRITISH AND IRISH PEOPLE

MR WIESE : PRINCESS MARGARET RECENTLY CALLED THE IRISH "PIGS" WOULD YOU CARE TO CHARACTERIZE THE ANIMAL SIMILARITIES OF CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH ROYAL FAMILY?

MR LYNCH : I HAVE NO INTENTION OF COMMENTING ON THE BRITISH ROYAL FAMILY, BUT WE PRODUCE PIGS IN IRELAND ANY CONTRIBUTE VERY MUCH TO OUR ECONOMY.

AND MAY I SAY, FROM OUR EXPERIENCE, WE PRODUCE OTHER ANIMALS AS WELL — COWS AND WHO KNOWS WHAT ELSE. OF THEM ALL, THE PIG IS BY FAR THE CLEANEST IN ITS HABITS.

MR WIESE : I WAS CERTAIN YOU WERE GOING TO SAY THE "MAGPIE".

YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS REPEATEDLY CRITICISED THE EFFORTS OF CONGRESSMAN MARIO BIAGGI AND HIS HUNDRED AND THRITY MEMBER AD HOC CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON IRISH AFFAIRS. DO YOU STILL BELIEVE THAT THE CONGRESSMAN SUPPORTS THE IRA AND DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT ONE THIRD OF THE U.S. CONGRESS ENDORSES VIOLENCE OR HAS YOUR CRITICISM OF REPRESENTATIVE BIAGGI BEEN BLOWN OUT OF PROPORTION?

MR LYNCH : I WOULD SAY AN UNEQUIVOCAL YES TO THE LAST PART OF THAT QUESTION. IT CERTAINLY HAS BEEN BLOWN OUT OF PROPORTION. WE HAVENT CRITICISED MARIO BIAGGI'S ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY NINE OTHER MEMBERS. WE HAVE CRITICISED MARIO BIAGGI BECAUSE IN 1975 HE PUBLICLY EXPRESSED SUPPORT AND WAS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROVISIONAL IRA AND THE PROVISIONAL IRA ARE THE MEN OF VIOLENCE, THEY ARE THE PEOPLE AS I SAID AT THE OUSSET IN MY MAIN SPEECH, WHO ARE THE REAL ENEMIES OF THE COUNTRY. AND THOSE WHO SUPPORT THEM, UNWITTINGLY OR OTHERWSIE, HAPPEN TO BE OUR ENEMIES, TOO.

I WOULD HOPE THAT MR BIAGGI, WHOM I MET YESTERDAY, BY THE WAY, WILL SEE THE TRUTH, WILL SEE WHAT THE REAL PROBLEM IS AND WILL DESIST FROM HIS SUPPORT EITHER MORAL, FINANCIAL OR POLITICAL OF THE PROVISIONAL IRA BECAUSE IF HE PROFESSES TO WANT TO SEE THE END OF VIOLENCE, IF HE PROFESSES HE WANTS TO SEE THE ADVANCE OF IRELAND POLITICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY, THEN HE WILL DESIST FROM HIS SUPPORT OF THE IRA IN ANY FASHION, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED.

MR WIESE : WHY DOES THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY REMAIN SILENT IN THE FACE OF WHAT IS GOING ON AT THE U.S. EMBASSY IN IRAN? DONT YOU HAVE AS MUCH ROOM TO MANEUVER AS THE PLO AS A NEGOTIATING FORCE?

MR LYNCH : WE HAVENT REMAINED SILENT. AS IT HAPPENED, WE HAD ALREADY ORGANISED A PRESENCE IN THIS UNFORTUNATE SITUATION. AND MAY I SAY, HOW MUCH I SYMPATHISE WITH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT AND HIS ADMINISTRATION IN THIS PARTICULAR RESPECT.

AND MAY I SAY IN PASSING THAT WHEN THE AMERICAN FAILS TO MAKE AN IMPRESSION ON ANOTHER GOVERNMENT, THEN THE SITUATION IN THE TERRITORY OF THAT GOVERNMENT MUST HAVE COME TO A SORRY PASS.

BUT WE DID AS THE PRESIDENT, FOR THE TIME BEING, OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, DECIDE TO MAKE AN INITIATIVE, WE HAD NATURALLY TO INQUIRE AND TO SOUND THE GROUND WHETHER OR NOT INITIATIVE WOULD BE PRODUCTIVE OR COUNTER PRODUCTIVE. BUT YESTERDAY WE DID MAKE A DEMARCHE. WE DID, AS THE IRISH PRESIDENCY REPRESENTING TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY MILLION EUROPEANS, MAKE THROUGH OUR CHARGE D'AFFAIRES IN IRAN AN APPROACH, A DEMARCHE, TO THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT, IF IT IS A GOVERNMENT — WHAT IT IS IS SOME FORM OF CONTROL COMMITTEE OR REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE — AND WE DID CONVEY TO THE IRANIAN ADMINISTRATION THE ABHORRANCE OF 260 MILLION PEOPLE OF WHAT THEY ARE PERMITTING TO BE DONE IN IRAN AT THE PRESENT TIME IN RELATION TO THE U.S. EMBASSY.



MR WIESE : MR PRIME MINISTER, BEFORE I ASK THE LAST QUESTION OF THE DAY, I KNOW YOU ARE ON A VERY TIGHT SCHEDULE, I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE YOU THIS CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION FROM THE PRESS CLUB FOR BEING KIND ENOUGH TO BE HRE, AND A NATIONAL PRESS CLUB JACKET.

I THINK THAT AFTER DISCUSSING SUCH HEAVY SUBJECTS AS THE VIOLENCE IN NORTHER IRELAND, IT MIGHT BE WELL THAT AS AN ORGANISATION OF JOURNALISTS, THIS BE THE LAST QUESTION: HOW IS YOUR PROGRAM OF TAX BREAKS FOR CREATIVE ARTISTS WORKING AND WOULD YOU RECOMMENT IT FOR OTHER COUNTRIES LIKE THE UNITED STATES?

ME LYNCH : WELL, IT CERTAINLY IS WORKING WELL. IT WAS INTRODUCED IN IRISH LEGISLATION, IRISH FINANCE OR FISCAL LEGISLATION IN OUR LAST TERM OF OFFICE, ABOUT 1968-69. IT HAD INDUCED MANY CREATIVE ARTISTS, WRITERS, PAINTERS AND OTHERS TO COME TO OUR COUNTRY AND SO FAR AS WE KNOW, ONLY ONE HAS LEFT BECAUSE HE WASNT DISSATISFIED WITH THE TAX INCENTIVES BUT WE HAD A POSTAL STRIKE ABOUT THREE OR FOUR MONTHS AGO. IT LASTED FOR ABOUT FIVE OR SIX MONTHS, AND HE DECIDED THAT WAS ENOUGH. BUT AS FAR AS HE IS CONCERNED, HE HAD NO COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE TAX INCENTIVES. THE TROUBLE IS THE COMPLAINTS COME FROM ANOTHER SOURCE, AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED — THOSE WHO HAVE TO PAY INCOME TAX ON THEIR INOMES EARNED OTHERWSIE THAN THROUGH CREATIVE WRITING OR PAINTING.

END OF MESSAGE  
NOVEMBER 12 1979.  
TIME : 16.20.HRS.

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REPLY TO HIBERNIA64160  
VIA WUI  
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