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IRISH EMBASSY, LONDON.

17 Grosvenor Place

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CONFIDENTIAL

5/1/2/5

27th January 1982

Dear Assistant Secretary

With reference to my confidential letter yesterday, 26th January, regarding my conversation with Lord Gowrie, I thought I should bring to your attention a paragraph in a recent note by Michael Lillis dated 13th January and headed 'SDLP talks with Prior'. As you will see in the final paragraph of the first page the following passage occurs:

"1. Prior said he would like to have from the SDLP some ideas as to how best the interests of persons in Northern Ireland whose primary self-identification was Irish could be promoted in the Anglo-Irish framework. Hume undertook to come back to Prior with suggestions in two weeks."

This would seem to suggest that Mr Prior is also thinking along the lines developed by Lord Gowrie with me on 22nd January.

In writing to you may I take this opportunity of correcting an obvious error in the first paragraph of Section B in my memorandum of 26th January. The phrase "the legitimisation of the aspiration of the majority" in the second last line should of course read "the legitimisation of the aspiration of the minority!"

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eamon Kennedy".

Eamon Kennedy
Ambassador

Mr D Neligan
Assistant Secretary
Department of Foreign Affairs
Dublin 2