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Mr. Murray
hvk
20-12-82

~~to Mrs. Thatcher~~

- ① message sent to Cdn. Ambro for transmission to London.
- ② I informed him it was on the way and to leave ⁱⁿ and copy to Margaret Kennedy

17/12

DRAFT

Reply from the Taoiseach, Dr. Garret FitzGerald, to the Prime Minister, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher.

821539

Thank you for your very kind message of congratulations on my election.

I look forward to working with you on the many matters of common interest. In particular, I look forward to working with you, in a spirit of friendship and cooperation, to improve our bilateral relationship of such crucial importance to both our countries. The tragic situation in Northern Ireland - a dominant feature in that relationship, which has so much potential for even greater tragedy - requires that we give it the highest priority in the months and years ahead.

In that connection, I have asked the Minister for Foreign Affairs to undertake a complete review of the position and he will no doubt be in touch with your colleagues as soon as that review has been completed.

/.....

I look forward to having the opportunity, when the ground work has been done, of considering together the many matters of concern to our two countries.

May I in conclusion wish you all the compliments of the Season.

*I drafted i/c with Mr. Sean Donlon,
D/Korem Affairs, & agreed by Taoiseach
before me.)
S*

17/12



BRITISH EMBASSY,
DUBLIN.

15 December 1982

An Taoiseach
Dr Garret FitzGerald TD
Department of the Taoiseach
Government Buildings
Upper Merrion Street
Dublin 2

An Taoiseach

The Prime Minister has asked me to pass you the following message:

'Please accept my warm congratulations on your election as Taoiseach. I enjoyed working with you when you were last in office and look forward to doing so again.'

Yours A. Cook

Leonard King

L C W Figg