

An Chartlann Náisiúnta National Archives

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Secretary to the Government

R. Stokes, Assistant Secretary

Enniskillen Victims: One Minutes' Silence Re:

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Archbishop Caird rang me again (2.40 p.m.) on this matter and said that he had now cleared with Cardinal O'Fiach and with Archbishop Eames of Armagh the proposal for a minute's silence on Sunday next. The Cardinal had suggested 6 p.m. as the time and that was now the agreed time. It had the advantage of not interrupting Church Services while still having the Angelus Bell as a time-signal.

Archbishop Eames had said that if the Government were announcing it here, Secretary of State, Tom King, should do so in the North. Archbishop Caird was anxious that the Taoiseach should issue a press release on this. While emphasising that I dealt with arts and culture matters and that I would be passing on these points to those advising the Taoiseach on this matter, I again said that I saw this as a church initiative which, when announced, the Governments North and South would probably welcome and endorse.

Dr. Caird said he would like to set down a draft of what he had in mind and ring me back. He did so (3 p.m.) and conveyed the text (attached) of a release which would to to the media.

12 November, 1987.

Copy to Doura Cartello



"The Church leaders in the Republic of Ireland have requested that one minutes silence be observed by all citizens on Sunday next, November 15th, at 6 p.m., in memory of those who were killed in Enniskillen on Sunday last. It is envisaged that all activity would stop for that minute to allow for silence and private prayer for those who died, those who were wounded and those who were bereaved.

The Taoiseach has expressed support for this proposal and would encourages the participation of all sections of the community in this act of rememberance" and

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