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DRAFT

I refer to your letter of 8 January 1992.

The Irish Government have consistently believed that those killed in Derry on Bloody Sunday were engaged in peaceful protest and were not involved in violence. In the immediate aftermath of the tragic events of 30 January 1972, the Irish Government vigorously protested to the British Government through diplomatic channels. The then Government also took steps to bring the Bloody Sunday killings before the European Commission of Human Rights in the context of the inter-State cases which the Government brought against the United Kingdom in the 1970s.

The Government have noted with interest that a number of Members of the House of Commons, from both main parties, have tabled motions requesting that the issue be re-examined, including a re-opening of the Widgery Tribunal and a review of the forensic evidence considered by the original tribunal. The Government welcome developments in this direction which could help to meet the legitimate concerns which have been voiced in this regard. They believe that this would contribute both to establishing an accurate record of what transpired on 30 January 1972, and to easing the sense of injustice felt by the families of the deceased.

Yours sincerely,

Albert Reynolds  
Taoiseach

Telefon } (01) 780822  
Telephone }  
x 25300  
Tagairt }  
Reference }



AN ROINN GNÓTHAÍ EACHTRACHA  
Department of Foreign Affairs

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH, 2.  
Dublin 2.

1 March, 1992

Mr. G. Cribbin  
Department of the Taoiseach  
Government Buildings  
Dublin 2

Dear Mr. Cribbin,

I refer to your letter of 14 February concerning a letter addressed to the Taoiseach on the subject of Bloody Sunday and I attach a draft reply for the Taoiseach's signature as requested.

Yours sincerely,

D. Kelleher

w8417

14 February, 1992.

Mr. Declan Kelleher,  
Anglo-Irish Division,  
Department of Foreign Affairs.

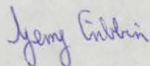
Dear Mr. Kelleher,

I enclose a copy of a letter sent to the former Taoiseach by the relatives of the 14 murdered victims of Bloody Sunday in which they call on the Irish Government to publicly support their endeavours to set up a full international inquiry into the shootings.

The letter - though acknowledged on 15 January - was mislaid in this Department for the last four weeks, thus explaining the considerable time-lag which has developed.

The Taoiseach's Private Office have asked me to urgently seek your Department's views on this matter and to prepare a draft reply for the Taoiseach's signature.

Yours sincerely,



Gerry Cribbin.

15 January, 1992.

Mrs. Kathleen McDaid,  
Bloody Sunday Initiative,  
1 Westend Park.

Dear Mrs. McDaid,

Thank you for your and your co-signatures letter of 8 January, 1992 addressed to the Taoiseach, Mr. Charles J. Haughey, T.D., regarding Bloody Sunday.

Your letter will be brought to the attention of the Taoiseach at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

~~BRIAN McCARTHY~~  
RICHARD HOLLAND  
FOR YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE

Private Secretary  
to the Taoiseach.

RH474/WP3

*h. Lohan*

*Re see DSD admin.  
(I understand they are  
seeing a mtg. with  
the Taoiseach)*

*RH 16/1/92*

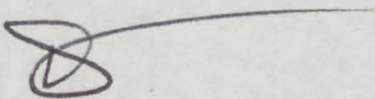
~~Mrs. M. J. Gentry~~

WEDNESDAY, 15 JAN 1992

For advice, please.

to Walker  
re ask & when  
to me.

~~24~~  
13/1/92





# Bloody Sunday Initiative

1 West End Park Derry BT48 9JF

8 January, 1992

To Mr Charles Haughey, TD  
An Taoiseach.

A Taoiseach,

We are relatives of the 14 murdered victims of Bloody Sunday (30 January 1972) and are writing to you to ask that your Government publicly support our call for a full international inquiry into their deaths and the wounding of others. On that day the British Parachute Regiment cold-bloodedly shot and murdered William Nash, Michael McDavid, John Young, James Wray, Kevin McElhinney, Michael Kelly, Patrick Doherty, Gerard Donaghy, Hugh Gilmore, Bernard McGuigan, William McKinney, Gerald McKinney, Jack Duddy and John Johnstone as they attended a civil rights march.

To date the only formal investigation into Bloody Sunday has been the Widgery Tribunal which was established by the British Government in February 1972. This inquiry produced a white-wash report vindicating the soldiers involved despite the mass of evidence to the contrary and which laid the blame on the 14 dead themselves as well as those who had organised the civil rights march. Subsequent informal criticisms of this Report, plus unofficial investigations into Bloody Sunday, have all suggested that the British Army and Government were guilty of murder and perjury.

We feel that 20 years on justice is still being denied to us and that until that denial is removed there is little chance of peace and justice on this island. We therefore ask that you wholeheartedly support our endeavours to set up this international inquiry. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Kathleen Mc David

Michael McKinney

J. Kelly

Eileen Doherty (Mrs)

Mary Doherty

Maureen McElhinney

Alex Wray

Olivia Bourne

John McKinney

Alexander Nash  
John Duddy  
Matthew Duddy

Maura Young