



**An Chartlann Náisiúnta**  
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Draft

Dear Mrs Carragher

I refer to your letter of 1 March concerning the tragic incident on 30 December in which your husband, Fergal Carragher, lost his life and your brother-in-law was wounded. I would firstly wish to express my condolences on your loss and to extend sympathy to you and your family in what has obviously been a very difficult period for you .

I can confirm that the Government have raised their concerns over the circumstances in which your husband lost his life through the Anglo-Irish Secretariat and at meetings of the Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental Conference. As you indicate in your letter, two British soldiers were charged on 5 February on counts of murder, attempted murder and grievous bodily harm. In view of the fact that the case is now before the courts you will appreciate that it would not be appropriate for me to comment further on the matter at this point. However I can assure you that, while it is not our practice to have official observers attend court hearings in Northern Ireland, the Government will closely follow developments in the case through the Anglo- Irish Secretariat in Belfast. In this regard I would suggest that the question of a meeting which you raise in your letter might be considered again in the light of the outcome of the case.

With regard to the more general concerns arising from the use of lethal force by the security forces in Northern Ireland the Government have made clear their view that a thorough review of the whole area, including the investigative process in such cases and the adequacy of the existing law is required. The British authorities have indicated that they are willing to consider the possibility of a change in the law and that the matter is receiving close scrutiny. I can assure you that the Government will continue to press for progress in this very important area.

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Tagairt  
Reference }AN ROINN GNÓTHAÍ EACHTRACHA  
Department of Foreign AffairsBAILE ÁTHA CLIATH, 2.  
Dublin 2.

2 April, 1992

Mr. Brian McCarthy,  
Department of the Taoiseach,  
Dublin 2.

Dear Brian,

I refer to your fax of the 13th March concerning the separate requests by Mrs. Margaret Caraher and the relatives of inmates of Crumlin Road Jail to meet the Taoiseach. I attach suggested draft lines of response to these requests.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Hennessy".

Pat Hennessy

TAOI