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Ein-fhreagra ar an litir seo, is mar seo ba choir e stiuradh:—

Any reply to this communication should be addressed to:—

An Rúnaí
(The Secretary)

fe'n uimhir seo:— S. 43/87
and the following number quoted:-

Telephone (01) 789711

ROINN DLÍ AGUS CIRT,
(Department of Justice),

72-76 FAICHE STIABHNA,
(72-76 St. Stephen's Green),

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH, 2.
(Dublin, 2)

NA

Un. O'Donovan
To see, please
T.D
21/12.

Secretary
Department of Foreign Affairs

21/12.

For the attention of Mr Justin Dillon, Anglo-Irish Section

Re: Thomas "Slab" Murphy

I refer to our minute of 23 November and enclose for your information copy of correspondence dated June 1987 relevant to the libel action which has been brought against the Mail Newspapers plc. by Mr Murphy.

Mary Burke
M. Burke

15th December 1987

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Mail Newspapers p.l.c.
Registered Office: Carmelite House, London, EC4Y 0JA 01-353 6000
Registered Number 84121 England

LEGAL DEPARTMENT.

8th June 1987

A.E. Malocco, Esq.,
Messrs. Malocco & Killeen,
Solicitors,
Chancery House,
3/4 Lr. Kevin Street,
Dublin 8.

11 JUN 1987
SOLICITORS

Dear Mr. Malocco,

Thomas Murphy

I am writing to formally instruct you to act on behalf of Mail Newspapers plc in the matter of Thomas Murphy. We have already spoken about this and you are familiar with some of the details.

I am enclosing copies of the following documents:

Not enclosed M 11/6

1. The pleadings in this case;
2. An affidavit of Patrick Murphy;
3. An advice by Richard Ferguson, Q.C.

I also have an opinion from James O'Reilly and advice, in letter form, from Mr. Fenelly, S.C. You may feel that, if new Counsel are to be instructed in this case, it would be more sensible for an opinion to be taken which is in no way influenced by prior opinions.

As you will appreciate, in view of the change in legal representation, it will be necessary to have the case taken out of the List and heard at a later time.

I will, of course, be in touch with you shortly with further information. Mr. Gore-Grimes, who was dealing with this matter, has said that he would be very happy to pass over papers to you and also to give you any continuing help he can.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Davidson, Q.C.

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PARLIAMENT

19 85 No. 9348P

THE HIGH COURT

Notice of Change of Solicitor

BETWEEN—

THOMAS MURPHY Plaintiffs

and

ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS GROUP PLC
AND EDWARD SCALLON Defendants

Notice of Change of Solicitor

TAKE NOTICE, that I have been appointed Solicitor

to Associated Newspapers Group Plc and Edward Scallon

"Plaintiff" or "Defendant."

the Defendants in this Action.

Dated the 15th day of June 19 87

Elio Malocco of Malocco and Killeen

Solicitor, whose registered place of business is

3/4 Lr. Kevin St, City of Dublin

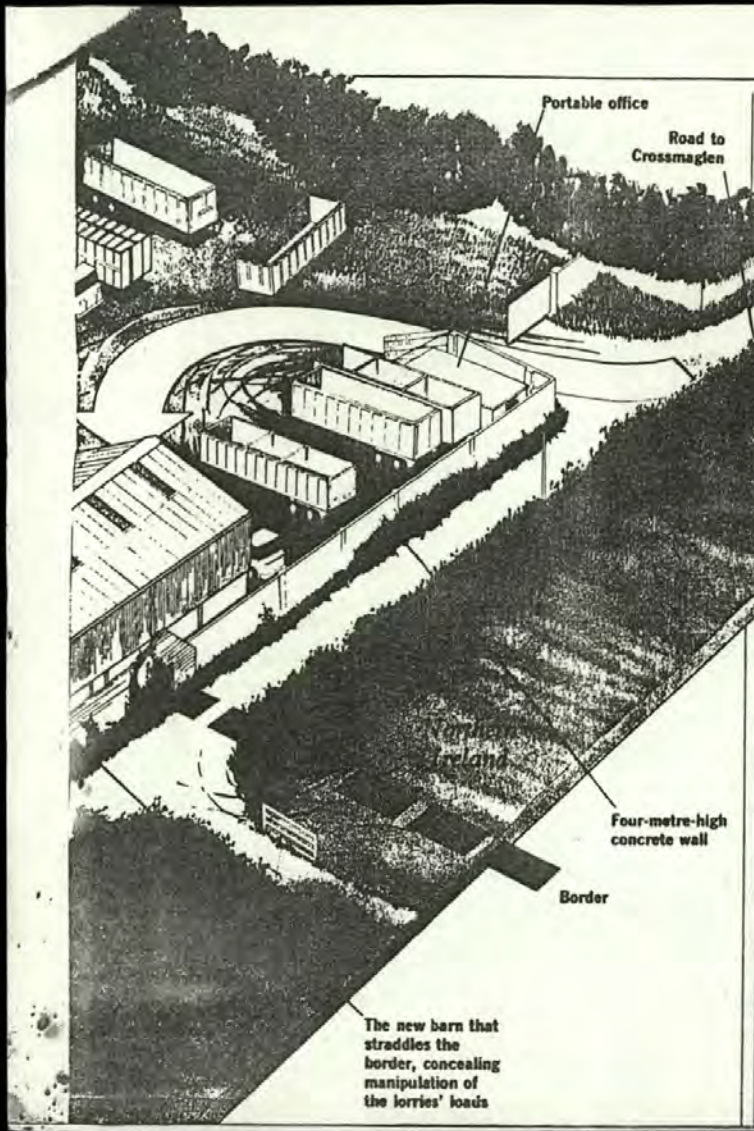
To Patrick Quinn & Co.

Solicitor for The Plaintiff, Ivy House,

Roden Place, Dundalk, Co. Louth. Dublin

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RACKETS, RAMPS AND BIG BUSINESS

For a generation our idea of terrorists has been dominated by the two groups which have most consistently been in the news. Close to home are the paramilitaries in Northern Ireland. Their constant need for funds has led them into frauds and racketeering permeating nearly every level of the society – and it includes the bizarre shenanigans on 'Slab' Murphy's border-point farm. Worldwide by far the most effective terror organisation is the Palestine Liberation Organisation, under the personal control of Yasser Arafat. It has gilt-edged securities on Wall Street, and an income of $2 million a day. A report on how their money keeps rolling in begins on page 28





Slab Murphy's farm is in a unique position. Straddling the border between north and south, it is ideally placed for him to take advantage of different taxes on cattle, farm produce and petrol by smuggling goods through specially built sheds. Sophisticated devices and hidden searchlights protect the area from close monitoring by the security forces

Thomas 'Slab' Murphy

Age: 42. Address: Larkins Road, Ballybinaby, County Louth, Republic of Ireland.
Occupation: terrorist. Income: in excess of £400,000 per annum

A few minutes by helicopter along the rugged border area from the frequently mortared army post at Crossmaglen lies the farm that has become one of the symbols of the British Army's impotence. It is also the IRA's most lucrative source of regular income. The £175,000 farm, its white buildings nestling in the middle of green fields, belongs to Thomas Murphy, known as "Slab" to his friends from his fondness for dropping concrete blocks on the legs of people he doesn't like.

Slab, a burly 42-year-old six-footer with a substantial paunch which invariably hangs over baggy trousers, held up by a broad leather belt, lives at the farm which is five miles along the border from a Customs post where he gets his papers stamped. It's also the only Customs post in the area that has not been blown up in recent years. Habitually wearing a tweed cap and anorak, he is good-looking with a prominent chin and thin face framed by long, dark sideboards and topped with curly, short, black hair, and with his three brothers, he lives and works at the farm.

What makes Slab valuable to the IRA and justifies his position on the northern command of the organisation is his farm and particularly a large corrugated-steel barn, constructed in 1970, that exactly straddles the border between north and south. Because of the barn, he is ➔

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