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TO HQ FROM WASHINGTON FOR SWIFT FROM LILLIS

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENATOR KENNEDY SENT TODAY TO B. WILLIAMS AND M. CORRIGAN.

OCTOBER 11, 1977

BETTY WILLIAMS AND MAIREAD CORRIGAN 8 UPPER CRESCENT. BELFAST 7, NORTHERN IRELAND

I SEND MY WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU BOTH FOR THE GREAT HONOR YOU HAVE RECEIVED IN WINNING THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE.

MORE THAN ANY OTHER DEVELOPMENT IN THE EIGHT TRAGIC YEARS OF THE VIOLENCE IN NORTHERN IRELAND, THE MOVEMENT YOU LAUNCHED HAS DEMONSTRATED THE TREMENDOUS DESIRE FOR PEACE BY THE VAST MAJORITY OF ORDINARY CITIZENS IN NORTHERN IRELAND, CATHOLICS AND PROTESTANTS ALIKE. YOUR SPONTANEOUS CRY FOR PEACE STRUCK A RESPONSIVE CHORD IN THE HEARTS OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE IN NORTHERN IRELAND, AND HAS WON THE SUPPORT OF MILLIONS IN OTHER LANDS. YOUR WORK IS A REMARKABLE TESTAMENT TO THE POWER OF INDIVIDUAL HUMAN BEINGS, ACTING TOGETHER, TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD AROUND THEM.

MAY THE HONOR YOU HAVE RECEIVED BRING A RENEWAL OF EFFORTS TO END THE VIOLENCE IN NORTHERN IRELAND AND TO ACHIEVE THE PEACE YOU HAVE SO ELOQUENTLY TRIED TO REACH. MY HOPES AND PRAYERS AND CONGRATULATIONS ARE WITH YOU AS THE SEARCH FOR PEACE GOES ON.

EDWARD M. KENNEDY U. S. SENATE

END OF MESSAGE OCTOBER 11, 1977 TIME SENT::17:20