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14 February 1980

Deputy Edward Filgate
Dáil Éireann
Dublin 2.

Dear Eddie

Thank you for your letter of 28 November with which you enclosed a note from Fr. Faul and Fr. Murray. Regrettably your letter became misplaced and I must apologise for the delay in writing to you.

It is not correct to say that the Ambassador in Washington in any way attempted to dissuade Congressman Fish from interesting himself in the case of the people convicted in Britain of complicity in the Birmingham bombings in 1973. The Ambassador gave the Congressman cuttings from Irish newspapers in the context of a previous discussion with the Congressman on the desirability of contact between elected representatives from both parts of Ireland and U.S. elected representatives.

Yours sincerely

Sgd. Brian Lenihan

Minister for Foreign Affairs