



An Chartlann Náisiúnta
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Washington

Ambassador

Neligan

XX C 358

Congressman Fish etc.

1. We submitted papers on this matter to Minister's office in first week of December with a view to (i) getting the then Minister's signature to draft letter to Deputy Filgate, who had written about the matter to the Minister as you know (see our C 382) on 28 November and (ii) letting the Minister see your proposed reply to the clergy concerned. Unfortunately the papers have been mislaid apparently during the period of the previous Minister's departure.

2. ~~We are now submitting a draft reply by the Minister to~~
Fathers Faul and Murray ~~who~~ have ^{on} written to ^{the Minister} ~~him~~ in the following terms:

Dear Mr. Linehan (sic)

Enclosed please find copy of letter Fathers Brian Brady, Denis Faul, and Raymond Murray have sent to the Irish Ambassador to the United States, Mr. Sean Donlon.

We hope that he will cease thwarting our efforts in the cause of justice and peace in the North of Ireland.

Beir buaidh (sic)

Raymond Murray

Denis Faul

3. Minister has approved following reply_;

Dear Father Murray and Father Faul

I have received your letter and enclosure of 28 December last concerning your representations to the Ambassador in Washington. The Ambassador is replying directly to the letter addressed to him by you and Father Brady.

I and the Government have full confidence in Ambassador Donlon and his staff. His conversations with Congressman Fish have not touched on the case of those convicted of the Birmingham bombings of 1974. They have been about the Congressman's interest in promoting contacts between elected representatives from both parts of Ireland and U.S. elected representatives.

4. There is no objection to your proposed reply to the three priests (last paragraph of C358).