



An Chartlann Náisiúnta
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AN ROINN GNÓTHAÍ EACHTRACHA
Department of Foreign Affairs

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH, 2.
Dublin 2.

13 August, 1987.

Mr. Noel Ryan,
Secretariat,
Belfast.

Dear Noel,

I refer to your telex of 10 August to Eamon O Tuathail and previous correspondence concerning the request for information from the mother of Capt. Robert Nairac.

I talked today to Dermot Cole in the Dept. of Justice who rejected the possibility that any useful result could come from an approach by the official chaplain in Portlaoise to the prisoner Liam Townson; indeed he believed it would be counter-productive. He suggested instead that an approach by the clergy - initiated perhaps by Cardinal O'Fiaich himself - to Townson's brother or the relatives of others involved in the Nairac murder might be much more rewarding.

I understand that Declan O'Donovan is planning to call on the Cardinal next week and will raise the issue with him.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Niall Holohan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Niall Holohan.