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Reference Code: 2019/101/2368

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IRISH EMBASSY, LONDON.

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7 November 1989

Dear Assistant Secretary

Perhaps you would add the following postscript to my note of 7 November, already forwarded.

I had a further word with Robin Butler today. He said that as time went on it became more and more difficult for people to find anything wrong with what Peter Brooke had said except in respect of the Cyprus analogy, which was certainly unfortunate. There would be no row with Brooke about it - partly because it was overshadowed by other events (a reference to other Cabinet difficulties) and because Mrs Thatcher, who is very busy, is not focussing on Irish affairs.

Butler went on to say that what Brooke had said could have a positive effect in the context of the debate understood to be going on within the republican movement. I replied that if, in fact, there is such a debate going on they would be pleased with the Taoiseach's reaction, which was directed to the same end of all round discussions.

Yours sincerely

Andrew O'Rourke
Ambassador

Mr Dermot A Gallagher
Assistant Secretary
Anglo-Irish Division
Department of Foreign Affairs
Dublin 2

*psa ✓
M. Weller; PPS ✓
M. Hatters; M. Thatcher
Gallagher A/ ✓
C.D.*