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191830Z FEB 85

FM LONDON

TO AIRBORNE 003 IMMEDIATE

BT

CONFIDENTIAL

TO AIRBORNE DESKBY 192000Z FOR PM'S PARTY

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY 192000Z WASHINGTON AND CABINET OFFICE

FROM FCO 191830Z FEB 85

TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON

TELEGRAM NUMBER 312 OF 19 FEBRUARY 1985

AND TO IMMEDIATE CABINET OFFICE

'FOR THE PM'S PARTY'

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM NOW REPEATED TO YOU AT REQUEST OF DEPT  
WAS RECEIVED FROM DUBLIN TELNO 76 OF 19 FEB

FOR THE PM'S PARTY

PERSONA FOR CLARK RID

PRIME MINISTERS VISIT TO WASHINGTON

1. LILLIS THIS AFTERNOON TOLD HOLT THAT THE TAOISEACH HAD INSTRUCTED THAT WE SHOULD BE INFORMED OF RECENT CONTACTS WHICH THE IRISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAD HAD WITH THEIR 'CONGRESSIONAL FRIENDS'.

2. LILLIS SAID THAT THOSE FRIENDS HAD A 'VERY LIMITED STATE OF INFORMATION' ON ANGLO-IRISH RELATIONS. THEIR NEGATIVE REACTION TO THE CHEQUERS SUMMIT WAS STILL UPPERMOST IN THEIR MINDS. THEIR TENDENCY WAS TO DENOUNCE VIOLENCE WHILE AT THE SAME TIME BEING VERY CRITICAL OF MRS THATCHER. ON THE TAOISEACH'S INSTRUCTIONS THEY WERE NOW BEING URGED NOT TO BE PUBLICLY CRITICAL OF THE PRIME MINISTER. THEY WERE ALSO BEING TOLD THAT THE IRISH GOVERNMENT WAS ENCOURAGED BY 'CURRENT PROGRESS BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND IRISH GOVERNMENTS'.

3. I LEAVE IT TO YOU HOW BEST TO HANDLE THIS INFORMATION VIZ A VIZ WASHINGTON AND NO 10.

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