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FM DUBLIN
TO FLASH FCO
TELNO 461
OF 161610Z DECEMBER 93
INFO FLASH NIO(L)

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me

16 December 1993

MY TELECON WITH ARCHER, RID: SELECT COMMITTEE ON NORTHERN IRELAND

SUMMARY

- 1. TAOISEACH EXPRESSES CONCERN AT PLANNED ANNOUNCEMENT.

DETAIL

2. AS REPORTED BY TELEPHONE, I TOLD DORR (SECRETARY DFA) OF THE PLANNED ANNOUNCEMENT OF A SELECT COMMITTEE ON NORTHERN IRELAND LATER TODAY. HE RANG BACK TO SAY THAT THE TAOISEACH WOULD PROBABLY STICK TO THE PUBLIC LINE HE HAD USED YESTERDAY - THAT THE MATTER WAS FOR THE HOUSE OF COMMONS. BUT THE TAOISEACH WISHED US TO KNOW THAT HE THOUGHT IT UNHELPFUL, ESPECIALLY THE TIMING. THE BALANCE OF THE JOINT DECLARATION RISKED BEING UPSET. AND THE PROVISIONALS HAD YET TO MAKE A RESPONSE.

BLATHERWICK

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