



PRIME MINISTER

Ireland

We have had an indirect message from the Taoiseach via Michael Lillis to say that he is very worried and upset by the reports which are coming out. He does not deny that he spoke as reported but is anxious that the Prime Minister should understand that it was at a private meeting and that he had come under very heavy fire indeed from his own party. He wants to keep the situation under control and to maintain the further discussions agreed at Chequers. He will be sending you a message today through the Irish Embassy here. He has also asked our Ambassador - who is on leave in this country - to return to Dublin today so that he can try to explain things.

C. D. POWELL

22 November, 1984