



# An Chartlann Náisiúnta National Archives

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BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH 2  
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9 April, 1987.

Rt. Hon. Douglas Hurd, M.P.,  
Home Secretary,  
Queen Anne's Gate,  
London SW1H 9AT.

Dear Douglas,

I am very grateful for your letter of 31 March in which you outlined to me the current position regarding the cases of the Birmingham Six, the Guildford Four and the Maguire family.

I was most encouraged by your decision to refer the case of the Birmingham Six to the Court of Appeal although frankly I had hoped that it would be possible to have the case heard sooner than 2 November. I appeal to you to refer the other two cases in a similar way and note that you will consider very carefully the points made in the recent ITV First Tuesday programme.

I hope to have the opportunity to meet you at a future date and to discuss these cases in greater detail.

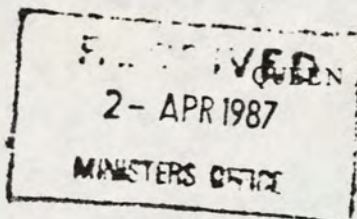
With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

**BRIAN LENIHAN**

Brian Lenihan, T.D.,  
Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs.





QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1H 9AT

31 March 1987

Dear Brian,

I think you will know that Peter Barry wrote to me on 6 March about the Birmingham, Guildford and Woolwich and Maguire cases.

I understand that the hearing of the six men's appeals in the Birmingham case has now been listed for 2 November.

On the Guildford and Woolwich case, I shall of course consider very carefully the points made in the recent "First Tuesday" programme. We are still waiting to receive from Mr Hill's solicitor a copy of a statement made by Mrs Fox. It will probably then be necessary to ask the police to make enquiries. Obviously this will take a little time, but I shall reach a decision as quickly as I can on whether Mrs Fox's statement affects the decision which I announced in my statement on 20 January. I shall also consider the report prepared on Carole Richardson and Lord Devlin's comments, although I should tell you now that I examined both of these matters before I made my statement.

On the Maguire case, I shall of course be willing to consider any fresh representations which may be made to me about the convictions; although, as Peter Barry pointed out, there are connections between the Guildford and Woolwich case and that of the Maguires, some of the points raised in the recent television programme bore directly on the Maguire case.

With all good wishes

Yours sincerely  
Douglas Hurd

Brian Lenehan, Esq., TD.