

## NATIONAL ARCHIVES

### IRELAND



**Reference Code:** 2002/8/493

**Title:** Letters to the Taoiseach, Jack Lynch, from [an abstracted source] and various petitioners regarding alleged violations of human rights by British Army forces in Northern Ireland.

**Creation Date(s):** 20 August, 1971-22 August, 1971

**Level of description:** Item

**Extent and medium:** 2 pages

**Creator(s):** Department of the Taoiseach

**Access Conditions:** Open

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22 August 1971.

Mr. Jack Lynch T.D.,  
Taoiseach,  
Government Buildings,  
Merrion St. Dublin.

A Thaoisigh, a Chara,

I have been asked by the signatories to send you the enclosed request and accompanying statements.

There are altogether 16 statements. Fourteen of these are from men who have already been released. Due to the difficulty of access to prisoners which lawyers are experiencing, it has not yet been possible to get more than two statements from men still detained. Since this is a matter of the greatest urgency, we have decided to send you this sample.

Despite the request of General Tuzo to the British Government for an independent inquiry, we urge you to take the action outlined. We feel that it is important to mobilize European and world opinion in order to get a satisfactory solution to the problems which concern all Irishmen.

If you require further information I will do my best to help.

Le dea-mhéinn,

20 : 8 : 1971.

Dear Mr. Lynch,

In his condemnation of August 14, 1971, of internment without trial in Northern Ireland, Cardinal Conway referred to the brutality which accompanied it, and demanded that the "evidence should be open to rigorous and independent examination".

As the Cardinal said, "Already there is prima facie evidence that entirely innocent men....were subjected to humiliating and brutal treatment by security forces".

We enclose some of this evidence in the form of signed and witnessed statements. In the light of these statements, we believe that the provisions of the European Convention of Human Rights may have been seriously violated. Consequently, we earnestly request you and your Government, under Article 24 of the Convention, to refer the matter urgently to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

Yours sincerely,

(Rev.) Brian J. Brady, B.A.,B.D.

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