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Reference Code:	2016/52/77
Creation Dates:	24 March 1986
Extent and medium:	1 page
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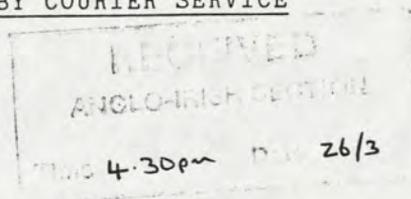
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17 Grosvenor Place
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24 March 1986

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Dear Assistant Secretary

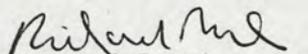
Sir John Biggs-Davison and the Glenholmes extradition case

As you are aware, Biggs-Davison misrepresented on BBC news (television and radio) on Saturday and Sunday the events surrounding this case, linking it inter alia to the "failure" of the Agreement and calling for the two Governments to urgently discuss terminating the Agreement. There is little doubt that Biggs-Davison's access to the air and his extreme and unchallenged perspectives were facilitated by John Cole whose bias we well know.

I contacted Bill Cash, M.P. on Sunday and got him rather steamed up about this. He subsequently spoke strongly to the BBC news editor on duty and was invited onto BBC's Today radio programme this morning. He spoke very well there, correcting Biggs-Davison's argument (without naming him but saying that some people were misrepresenting this serious matter in a disgraceful way). Cash set out the nature of the problem clearly and correctively.

Biggs-Davison re-appeared on Today a little after and adopted a significantly less strident tone: indeed, the interviewer seemed greatly stiffened by Cash's earlier argument, and rather socked Biggs-Davison's arguments back at him.

Yours sincerely


Richard Ryan
Counsellor

Taoiseach
Minister
Secretary
Mr. Nally
Mr. Lillis
Mr O'Donovan
Mr O'Brien (PRESS)