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QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1W 9AT

7 August 1987

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MINISTERS OFFICE

L. Holahan
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Dear Mr Lenihan,

Thank you for your letter of 31 July about the Guildford and Woolwich and Maguire cases. I was indeed about to write to you to let you know the latest position.

You may have seen press reports of the meeting which I had recently with a delegation led by Cardinal Hume during which a number of statements relating to the Guildford and Woolwich case were presented to me. I have now asked the Avon and Somerset police (who were not of course involved in the original police investigations) to undertake inquiries regarding these statements. I shall then consider as soon as practicable, in the light of the police report of these inquiries and other matters raised with me, whether there are grounds for referring the Guildford and Woolwich case to the Court of Appeal.

On the Maguire case, the position remains that no fresh matters have been raised with me since my statement on 20 January.

Many thanks for your good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Noel

Approved by the Home Secretary
and signed in his absence *by his*
Private Secretary.

*PSS
A/SO Mathail
Counselor A.I.
A.I. Secretariat
Amb. London*

Brian Lenihan, Esq, TD

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OIFIG AN AIRE GNÓTHAÍ EACHTRACHA
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS



BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH 2
DUBLIN 2

for Mr. H.

31 July 1987

Rt. Hon. Douglas Hurd, M.P.,
Home Secretary,
Queen Anne's Gate,
London. SW1H 94I

Dear Douglas,

I wrote to you on 9 April in response to your helpful letter of 31 March in which you outlined to me the position at that time regarding the cases of the Birmingham Six, the Guildford Four and the Maguire Family.

Interest in the question of referral of the latter two cases to the Court of Appeal remains very strong in Ireland. I recently met Mrs. Maguire and Mr. and Mrs. Smalley (Mrs. Smalley is an aunt of Paul Hill, one of the Guildford Four) who wished to make a presentation of the case for referral. I let them know that I had written to you on the matter and told them of the position as in your letter of 31 March.

I would be most interested in hearing from you as to how you see the position in regard to these cases at present.

May I extend to you my warmest congratulations and personal good wishes on your re-election and re-appointment as Home Secretary.

Yours sincerely,

BRIAN LENIHAN

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