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*Mr. McCann
30.11.88*

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Tánaiste's Conversation with Secretary of State

In the course of a telephone call to the Tánaiste this afternoon about the Fr. Ryan case, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Tom King, made three main points as follows:

- (a) the British were very concerned about the activities of Fr. Ryan over the years, and this concern was based on high-level intelligence;
- (b) in their view, Fr. Ryan was a key man, especially as regards the purchase of arms on the international market; and
- (c) Mrs. Thatcher was extremely hyped-up about the issue, a development which concerned the Secretary of State.

DRT

Dermot Gallagher,
29 November, 1988.

cc: PSM
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