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May 12 '92 19:56 P.02/04

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 11, 1997

The Right Honorable John Major
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1 AA
England

Dear Mr. Major:

We, the undersigned, are calling for an official inquiry into the events surrounding "Bloody Sunday" in Derry in the north of Ireland on January 30, 1972.

On that day 25 years ago, fourteen unarmed civil rights demonstrators were killed by British soldiers at a march protesting the policy of internment without trial. The legacy of that day has left a terrible stain of bloodshed and pain in the north of Ireland for the past twenty five years.

These fourteen men were innocent of any crime. The time has come for their families to receive justice for their loved ones. A new inquiry must be conducted immediately to re-examine the actions taken by the British First Battalion of the Paratroop Regiment, and other regiments of the British Army, on that day.

We welcome the recent news that Sir Patrick Mayhew met with the families of the victims of Bloody Sunday. Mr. Prime Minister, you have called the events of Bloody Sunday a "terrible, terrible tragedy." We agree, and ask that you hold an official inquiry to establish exactly what occurred on January 30, 1972, and to determine who was responsible. Only when the truth is known and acknowledged will the families of the victims be able to go on with their lives.

The recent evidence from ballistic experts, and recordings of radio transmissions, as was the testimony of eyewitnesses and soldiers present on that day, raises serious questions as to whether British soldiers fired on demonstrators from the vicinity of Derry's walls. This information alone should be more than enough to warrant a reopening of the investigation.

Mr. Prime Minister, for many men and women, Bloody Sunday was the defining moment of their generation. No member of the British security forces has ever been held accountable for their actions on January 30, 1972. We must seek the truth of what happened on that terrible day, and pursue justice before we can

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ever envision a day of reconciliation for both traditions in the north of Ireland.

Sincerely,

Thomas Manton
(MANTON) D-NY

John T. Walsh
(WALSH) R-NY

Q.C. Gilman
(GILMAN) R-NY

Gary Z. Ackerman
(ACKERMAN) D-NY

Donald Wayne
(WAYNE) D-NY

Mattie McEgan
(MEEHAN) D-MASS

Caulyn Mc Carthy
(McCarthy) D-NY

Michael R. McNulty
(McNulty) D-NY

Richard E. Neal
(NEAL) D-MASS

Pete King
(KING) R-NY

John Kennedy
(KENNEDY) D-MASS

James Nadler
(NADLER) D-NY

Rita Loney
(LONEY) D-NY

Chris Smith
(SMITH) R-NY

Sam Kelly
(KELLY) R-NY

Carolyn B. Maloney
(MALONEY) D-NY

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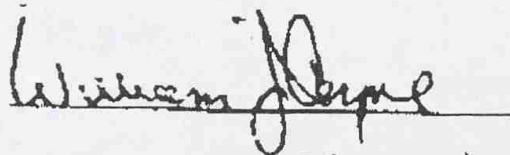
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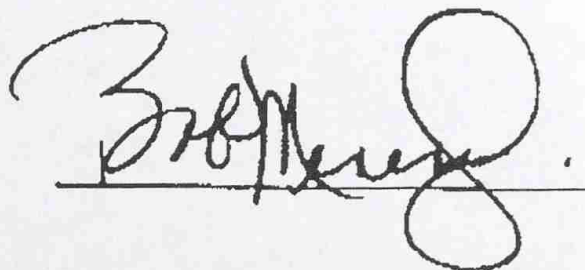
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(DOYLE) D-PENN



(MENENDEZ) D-NJ