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MR LEDLIE DUS (B)
MR WOOD
MR DODDS
MR J STEELE
MR M WILLIAMS

MR LEACH
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Mr Watters
for file
Duke
28/5

PRESIDENT ROBINSON'S CALL ON HM THE QUEEN: IRISH PRESS REACTIONS

SUMMARY

1. PRESIDENT ROBINSON'S CALL ON HM THE QUEEN DOMINATES IRISH MEDIA. SPECULATION ABOUT POSSIBLE STATE VISIT TO BRITAIN OR A PRIVATE VISIT BY HM THE QUEEN TO THE REPUBLIC.

DETAIL

2. PRESIDENT ROBINSON'S COURTESY CALL ON HM THE QUEEN ON 27 MAY HAS DOMINATED ROI NEWS COVERAGE. RTE TELEVISION NEWS ON THE EVENING OF 27 MAY DEVOTED MORE THAN TEN MINUTES TO THE CALL WHILE MOST PAPERS TODAY GIVE OVER AT LEAST THREE OR FOUR PAGES TO THE VISIT ALL WITH EXTENSIVE PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE. ALL THE EDITORIALS HAVE A COMMON THEME - AN HISTORIC EVENT FULL OF SYMBOLIC POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND PRAISE FOR A 'MOULD-BREAKING' PRESIDENT.

3. INEVITABLY YESTERDAY'S CALL AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE HAS PROMPTED THE PAPERS TO ASK WHAT SHOULD HAPPEN NEXT. A PRIVATE VISIT BY HM THE QUEEN TO THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND, THE IRISH TIMES SUGGESTS, WOULD BE THE LOGICAL NEXT STEP WHILE THE IRISH INDEPENDENT ON ITS FRONT PAGE CARRIES THE HEADLINE 'PALACE TALKS PREPARE THE WAY FOR STATE VISIT' (BY PRESIDENT ROBINSON).

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