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Hull's explanatory telegram, they have withdrawn their objections to his memorandum.

8. While I was in London the news concerning the Azores was made public. Sir John Maffey, Mr. Gray, and myself are of the opinion that the precedent created with regard to Portugal offers a good opportunity to broach the subject of facilities to the Irish Government. The result, I think, will be that the President of the United States of America, through Mr. Gray or a representative specially appointed for the purpose, will cause to be delivered to Mr. de Valera at some time not far distant, a request pretty much in the terms of the Cordell Hull memorandum. I understand that Mr. Cordell Hull is either on his way to Moscow or in Moscow, and his absence may cause some delay in the transmission of the document. I think that in the light of the success of the Azores affair some of the procedure and phraseology employed by the British in obtaining the use of the Azores, might usefully be employed with respect to Irish bases, and the Cordell Hull memorandum could, accordingly, be profitably modified. Sir John Maffey thinks likewise. Neither he nor I have a copy of the Cordell Hull memorandum, and as Mr. Gray has only read its contents to us, quite apart from the delicacy of making any suggested amendment, we are not in a position to do so any further than by making verbal comments.

9. Sir John Maffey tells me that he feels sure that the proposed document will be dissected sentence by sentence when it comes up for consideration by the British Cabinet, and that he will probably have a better opportunity of studying it and offering detailed suggestions.

10. I am enclosing a copy of the front page of the Irish Times of October 13th which I read on my return to Dublin. You will notice that on the right-hand side of the page Portugal's move is featured, and mention is made that a member of the British House of Commons asked Mr. Churchill "if an opportunity would be taken to draw the attention of the Government of Southern Ireland to this matter". On the left-hand side of the page is the report of a speech made by the Irish Minister for Supplies, Mr. Sean Lemass, wherein he mentions that "There were many materials which could not be obtained in future because the governments controlling them would not release them. The carrying capacity of Irish ships had been reduced by almost fifty per cent through the loss in the past year of two of the country's best vessels and other circumstances."; and that because of inflation the state of affairs in Ireland may get out of control, and harder times are in the offing.