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go out of their way to give Mr. De Valera a plausible public occasion for modifying his policy.

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In the circumstances, I think it was a mistake in judgment for the United Kingdom and United States Governments to present formal notes on this subject to the Irish Government at this time, but I do not think we could act as Mr. De Valer's intermediary in attempting to bring about their withdrawal. It is clear from his conversation with Mr. Kearney that, though he objects, understandably and very strongly, to the form which Anglo-American pressure has taken, he would, in fact, have been just as obdurate if the approach had been indirect and informal. I think we could agree to intervene in an effort to secure the withdrawal of the notes if there were any chance of the Irish Government expelling the Axis missions of their own motion, but of this there seems to be no present prospect.