**Item: AIB.APL.Z.117.1939.Redacted.pdf**

**Transcript**

‘Phone

Chancery 8191 **[**redacted**]**

 Ext. 28

 January 9th. 1939

Hon. F. Pakenham,

**[**redacted**]**

Dear Mr. Pakenham,

 Mr. H. Hughes phoned me to-day stating that on his

return from Vacation he had found a notice awaiting him from

the British and North American Luncheon Club to the effect

that it was proposed to alter the date for the talk on the

Partition of Ireland from January 11th. to February 8th. 1939,

if the latter date suited the lecturer.

 Mr. Hughes expresses himself bewildered and keenly

disappointed at the unexpected change in programme,

and explains that it is due to the Club’s desire to take

advantage of another lecture’s brief sojourn in London to

give its members an opportunity they may not otherwise have

of hearing well-informed comments on China.

 He trusts that the alternative date suggested will

be convenient for you and has asked me to invite you to be

his guest for lunch at the Abercorn Rooms on Wednesday next.

Your attendance at the function, he considers, would help

you to sense the atmosphere beforehand and, if you are

agreeable to the change in date, would enable the Committee to

announce your talk for February 8th. He would appreciate a

note from you at 1, Garden Court, Temple, E.C.4.

 The matter is entirely one for your decision, I can

only express regret at the breakdown in the arrangement and

explain that I deferred acknowledging yours of December 29th.

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pending receipt of a reply to the letter I had addressed to

Mr. Hughes on December 30th. informing him of the confirmation

of your acceptance of the invitation to address the Club.

Mr. Hughes is evidently in no way to blame for the Club’s

rather surprising decision, though you would of course have

been notified sooner were it not for his absence from town.

 With best wishes for the New Year.

 Your sincerely,