



An Chartlann Náisiúnta National Archives

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31 AUGUST 1988

C. 2/4

AVOS

*Mr Kennedy 11/9/88
Mr Walsh
The 25 of 1988
RQ 7/9/88*

*CC. Mr McCarthy
Tuosreach Dept.
+PA.*

TO HQ FROM WASHINGTON
FOR SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

CC: A/SEC. GALLAGHER — *copied*

AA 2/9.

UUUJOSEP
THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM AND NORTHERN IRELAND

1. THE SECTION IN THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM RELATING TO NORTHERN IRELAND, THE TEXT OF WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN SENT TO MS. ANDERSON IN ANGLO-IRISH SECTION (FURTHER COPY FAXED TO YOU) HAS GENERATED INTEREST IN THE IRISH-AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND IN PARTICULAR HAS LED FIGURES SUCH AS NEW YORK REPUBLICAN CONGRESSMEN BEN GILMAN AND HAMILTON FISH (BOTH MEMBERS OF THE IRISH NATIONAL CAUCUS) AND PETER KING, COMPTROLLER OF NASSAU COUNTY IN NEW YORK AND A NORAID SUPPORTER, NOT ONLY TO ARGUE THAT THERE HAS BEEN A MAJOR CHANGE IN REPUBLICAN PARTY POLICY BUT ALSO TO CLAIM AUTHORSHIP OF THE PARAGRAPH IN QUESTION. THIS, WE ARE RELIABLY INFORMED, IS NOT THE CASE.

2. THE PARAGRAPH IN QUESTION WAS DRAFTED BY A MEMBER OF THE BUSH CAMPAIGN FAMILIAR WITH IRISH ISSUES AND WITHOUT REFERENCE TO IRISH-AMERICAN GROUPS. THE FIRST SENTENCE READS "WE SHARE A DEEP CONCERN FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE IN NORTHERN IRELAND AND CONDEMN ALL VIOLENCE AND TERRORISM IN THAT STRIFE TORN LAND". THIS IS AN EXACT REPLICATION OF THE SENTENCE WHICH MADE UP THE 1984 REPUBLICAN PLATFORM ON NORTHERN IRELAND. (PETER KING RECENTLY ON RADIO HAS PUBLICLY LAID EMPHASIS ON THE REFERENCE TO "PEACE AND JUSTICE", CLEARLY IN AN EFFORT TO ASSIMILATE IT TO THE IRA/NORAID USE OF "PEACE WITH JUSTICE".) THE SECOND SENTENCE STATING SUPPORT FOR THE PROCESS OF PEACE AND RECONCILIATION ESTABLISHED BY THE ANGLO-IRISH AGREEMENT REFLECTS STANDARD REPUBLICAN PARTY VIEWS. THE FINAL CLAUSE, WHICH REFERS TO THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF "NEW INVESTMENT AND ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION IN NORTHERN IRELAND ON THE BASIS OF STRICT EQUAL OF OPPORTUNITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT" WAS, INSPIRED BY FORMULATIONS SETTING OUT THE OBJECTIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR IRELAND. IT DOES NOT, WE ARE INFORMED, IMPLY ANY CHANGE OF APPROACH ON THE MACBRIDE PRINCIPLES. (THE IRISH VOICE NEWSPAPER IN NEW YORK RECENTLY LINKED THIS PHRASE TO SUCH A CHANGE OF APPROACH).

*Tuoreach
To see photo
7/9*

SEEN BY
TADISFACH

3. IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT THE IRISH PEOPLE, THE PRO-IRA NEWSPAPER BASED IN NEW YORK, REPORTED ON 20 AUGUST THAT A LETTER OF 28 JUNE REQUESTING A JOINT MEETING WITH BUSH HAD BEEN SENT TO THE VICE-PRESIDENT BY A DOZEN OR SO IRISH-AMERICAN GROUPS. WE UNDERSTAND FROM THE REPUBLICAN PARTY THAT THE CO-SIGNATORIES WERE AS FOLLOWS: JOHN DEARIE, ASSEMBLYMAN FOR THE BRONX; JOHN FINUCANE, NATIONAL PRESIDENT AMERICAN IRELAND POLITICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE, CODY MCCONE, PRESIDENT BREHON LAW SOCIETY OF NEW YORK, THOMAS CONNAUGHTON, PRESIDENT GRAND COUNCIL OF EMERALD SOCIETIES; SEAN MINIHANE, NATIONAL CHAIRMAN IIRM; KATHLEEN HOLMES, CHAIRWOMAN AMERICAN IRISH CONGRESS; FR. SEAN MCMANUS, IRISH NATIONAL CAUCUS; NICK MURPHY OF THE AOH; JOHN LAW, TRANSPORTATION WORKERS UNION; MARTIN GALVIN; FRANK FEIGHERY, CHAIRMAN UNITED IRISH COUNTIES ASSOCIATION; MARY HOLT MOORE, COUNCIL OF GAELIC SOCIETIES AND MICHAEL QUINN OF THE WESTCHESTER IRISH COMMITTEE. THE CO-SIGNATORIES PUT FORWARD A SIX POINT AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AND SAID THEY WERE TOTALLY FLEXIBLE AS TO TIME AND PLACE. THE SIX ITEMS WERE:

1. A U.S. ENVOY TO NORTHERN IRELAND.
2. FEDERAL LEGISLATION ON THE MACBRIDE PRINCIPLES.
3. IMMIGRATION.
4. VISA POLICIES "AS REGARDS IRISH ELECTED OFFICIALS".
5. THE U.S. - U.K. EXTRADITION TREATY.
6. US CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR IRELAND.

SOME OF THESE OF COURSE ARE FAMILIAR ITEMS ON THE NORAIID/IRISH NATIONAL CAUCUS/AOH SHOPPING LIST.

4. THE LETTER OF 28 JUNE WAS RESPONDED TO IN EARLY AUGUST I.E. BEFORE THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION, BY A JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENTIAL AIDE, TURNING DOWN THE REQUEST FOR A MEETING. THIS PROMPTED A VIGOROUS DENOUNCIATION OF THE BUSH CAMPAIGN BY THE "IRISH PEOPLE". WHAT IS INTRIGUING HOWEVER IS THAT ON 18 AUGUST, I.E. AFTER THE PUBLICATION OF THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM, WE UNDERSTAND THAT BUSH RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM CARDINAL LAW OF BOSTON WHO TOLD THE VICE-PRESIDENT THAT HE HAD BEEN ASKED BY CARDINAL O'CONNOR TO REQUEST THE VICE-PRESIDENT TO REVIEW THE EARLIER DECISION TURNING DOWN THE REQUEST FOR A MEETING. BUSH WAS UNFAMILIAR WITH THE CASE AND TOLD HIS STAFF THAT CARDINAL LAW MENTIONED TO HIM THAT HE THOUGHT FR. MCMANUS WAS "CONTROVERSIAL". WE UNDERSTAND THAT BUSH HAS ASKED HIS STAFF TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER AND PREPARE A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO CARDINAL O'CONNOR ON THE ISSUE. (IN THE EVENT HOWEVER THE REPLY MAY GO TO CARDINAL LAW AS BUSH'S PRIMARY INTERLOCUTOR). WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THE RESPONSE IS LIKELY TO BE A POLITE REFUSAL TO HAVE SUCH A MEETING.

5. IRONICALLY THE IRISH VOICE PUBLISHED AN EDITORIAL REMARKING ON THE NOVELTY, AS THEY SEE IT OF THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM'S EXTENSIVE REFERENCE TO IRELAND, SIDE BY SIDE WITH AN ARTICLE REPORTING ON DEARIE'S STRICTURES OF MR. BUSH FOR HIS FAILURE SO FAR TO MEET WITH THE DELEGATION DESCRIBED ABOVE.

6. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS SOME RESENTMENT IN THE BUSH CAMPAIGN AT THE CLAIMS MADE BY CONGRESSMEN GILMAN, AND HAMILTON FISH, AND PETER KING THAT THEY WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SHAPING OF THE PLATFORM. CLEARLY AT SOME STAGE IT

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WILL BECOME CLEAR THAT THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM DOES NOT AMOUNT TO A CHANGE IN REPUBLICAN THINKING ON NORTHERN IRELAND AND IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE THE REACTION OF THE RELEVANT IRISH-AMERICAN GROUPS IN THE NEW YORK AREA.

AA 2/9

*(already typed 1.7.88 Gallyn)*  
*see (b-1)*

**FAX COVER SHEET**

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**Fax No:** 381

**Date:** 31 August 1988

**Time:** \_\_\_\_\_

**To:** H.Q.

**For:** SECRETARY

**From:** AMBASSADOR

**Total number of pages, including this cover sheet:** 2

**Brief description of material:** Attached please find Republican Party Platform: Paragraph on Northern Ireland.

**Any special instructions:** (My message of today refers)

**Transmitting operator:** Jo. Mc Elmeel  
*Mr. Mc Elmeel*  
*Insurance Dept*

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We share a deep concern for peace and justice in Northern Ireland and condemn all violence and terrorism in that strife-torn land. We support the process of peace and reconciliation established by the Anglo-Irish Agreement, and we encourage new investment and economic reconstruction in Northern Ireland on the basis of strict equality of opportunity and non-discrimination in employment.