



# An Chartlann Náisiúnta National Archives

**Reference Code:** 2021/97/45

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12/08/95 17:30

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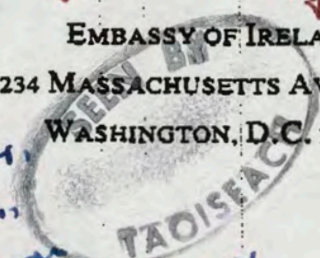
EMBASSY OF IRELAND

2234 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008



Secure Fax



December 8, 1995

TO: HQ

FOR: C. O'FLOINN

cc: B. Scannell

FROM: P. HENNESSY

IRA STATEMENT

1. White House has reacted calmly to the IRA statement on the Decommissioning Body. The general view is that the tone and timing are unhelpful, but that in substance it repeats known positions. The agreed line for public consumption includes the following elements (there was appreciation for the prompt supply of transcripts etc, for which we are grateful to the Department):

- there has been no change in the IRA position.
- Sinn Fein, not the IRA, will talk to the Commission
- noting comments by Gerry Adams on RTE that Sinn Fein will speak authoritively on the arms issue (while there was a feeling that this involved a broad interpretation of the Morning Ireland interview, the subsequent Adams statement was thought to be helpful).

2. In the aftermath of the visit, and the follow-up press coverage, the feeling within the NSC is that a lower public profile by the Administration would now be appropriate.

ENDS

Mr. Hillier  
S.H.

*cc*  
*D. O'Sullivan*  
*Mr. P. Hennessy*  
*Mr. S. Doolan*  
*Mr. B. Scannell*

*Mr. S. Hare*  
*Mr. J. ...*  
*11/12*

*Mr. Hare*  
*11/12*

*Recd 11.12*

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*in memo*  
*to ...*  
*11/12*

*No. 672*  
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