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Memo

Mr. Kirby phoned regarding the request from the American Embassy for the names of people from abroad who had attended the recent Anti-Imperialist Conference organised by Sinn Féin (Gardiner Place). He informed me that this was seen as a matter essentially for the police and that, if a request for this information comes from the United States' man in London, the police authorities here will be only too happy to consider it.

On the questions regarding frequent travellers between here and the United States and frequent telephone-calls between the same numbers, Mr. Kirby said that his information is that there is very good contact through police channels and that he had no information to the effect that the US contact was unhappy about the degree of cooperation. He added that his side was not aware of any problem in this area.

I phoned Mr. DuBose and arranged to meet him tomorrow morning.

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D. Hamill

4.8.76

Mr. DuBose called this morning and I responded as above to his enquiry regarding ~~that~~ Anti-Imperialist Conference. He readily accepted this response. He said that his authorities were interested in the Conference in view of its international character. He said that, to date, Northern Ireland had had relatively small impact on the international scene and contrasted the situation there with what had transpired in Angola. As regards the other questions he had raised during his meeting with Mr. McColgan, I informed him that I had passed his comments to the relevant authorities here and then went on to reiterate the points made by Mr. Kirby.

I referred to the audit of Noraid finances which was to have been carried out by the US Inland Revenue authorities and asked whether there had yet been any developments on this front. He said that an audit had been carried out and that, as a result, a list of queries had been put to Noraid. In view of the level of legal advice available to Noraid, however, he felt that action along these lines would merely amount to a degree of "harassment" and that no significant breakthrough would result.

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D. Hamill

5.8.76

Mr. Hamill

I had lunch with Mr. Bob DuBose of the American Embassy on Thursday last. Mr. DuBose indicated that his authorities would appreciate being given the names of people from abroad who attended as delegates at the recent Anti-Imperialist Conference organised by Sinn Féin. I suggested to him that he use the normal police channels to obtain this but he seemed reluctant to do this on the grounds that even if his man in London got the information he was so unreliable that he would not pass it to him. I said I would enquire if it was possible to facilitate him in this matter but would not enter into any commitment. Perhaps you could contact the Department of Justice informally and enquire if they would be prepared to give such information to the Americans on a confidential basis. I think it most likely that they will not and may well suggest the police channels. It would be easier to go back to DuBose on that basis if we have the recommendation from the Department of Justice.

DuBose also mentioned to me that not enough information is being given to the American authorities about frequent travellers between here and the United States who may be connected with NORAIID nor in his view is enough information being made available on frequent telephone calls between the same numbers in Ireland and America. He emphasised that with the computerisation of their intelligence information such data could be extremely effective in helping them track down NORAIID operations. I told him that this matter was not in my area of responsibility but that I would pass on his recommendation.

He also made the general observation that their enquiries are beginning to indicate that NORAIID are not now buying guns in the States but are sending the money directly to Ireland for prisoners' dependants, etc. They had indications that this was releasing other funds in Ireland which were used to buy weapons in the States and it was, according to him, now clear that money for guns in the States was coming direct from Ireland.

You may wish to pursue the matter with DuBose following consultations.

J. McC.
26 July 1976

memo.

Spoke to Mr. Jim Kirby, Df Justice & enquired as at X above. Also informed him of the points made by DuBose re frequent travellers, telephone calls and re money for guns apparently coming direct from here.