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cc Mr. Nelson
Mr. Ó Súilleabháin
PSS
PSM

10 April 1979

Dear Frank

We hope to send you late today or early tomorrow briefing papers in connection with the Tip O'Neill visit on the following subjects:

- (1) Current political situation
(This will cover both the Northern Ireland and the British situation)
- (2) Local government abuses in Northern Ireland
- (3) Internal security situation in Northern Ireland
- (4) The UDR
- (5) Conditions in Long Kesh
- (6) North/South Economic Co-operation
- (7) The United States and Northern Ireland
- (8) Biographies of Congressional delegation

Appendix Fatal Casualties in Northern Ireland

In addition, Political and Economic Divisions are, as suggested by Wally Kirwan, working on briefing papers in their areas. Perhaps you would let me know how many copies of each paper you will require. We presume that the actual assembling of the brief will, as usual, be done in your Department.

We discussed last week the question of material that might be given to the Congressmen. The present state of our thinking is that each Congressman should be given in their hotel a presentation kit which would contain Facts about Ireland, a selection of the Fact sheets this Department prepares and a selection of speeches on Northern Ireland by the Taoiseach and the Minister for Foreign Affairs. We are also working on a paper summarising the general approach of the Government on the Northern Ireland problem. At the drafting stage, we ran into many problems on this but I should be able to let you know tomorrow how successful we have been.

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We are also working on a separate paper on possible tactics for the visit. In consultation with the Embassy in Washington, we are attempting to isolate the questions in the United States to which we should attempt to give answers in the very limited time available for formal briefing and to suggest possible ways in which this might be done. Here also we would hope to let you have a paper sometime tomorrow.

I suppose my purpose in putting this in writing at this stage is to give you an opportunity to let us know if you see any gaps in what we are proposing!

Yours sincerely

Hugh Swift

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