

## NATIONAL ARCHIVES

### IRELAND



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PSS

PSM

St. Patrick's Day Functions in U.S.

1. We have been informed by the Department of the Taoiseach that the Government discussed this Department's paper recently and decided that Ministers reviewing parades should leave the platform if bodies supporting the IRA participated. Among such bodies Noraid and Caucus were specifically mentioned.

2. The following Ministers are going or are considering going to the U.S.A.:-

- (a) Minister O'Malley will visit San Francisco and Los Angeles. He will arrive in San Francisco on 16 March for an IDA Dinner that evening.
- (b) Minister O'Kennedy would be happy to take on some or all of the West Coast functions mentioned in the Annex of our paper, should his Ministerial duties permit.
- (c) The Minister for Posts and Telegraphs has been invited to a function in New York and proposes to review the parade.
- (d) The Minister for Justice is going to Miami.
- (e) The Minister for the Gaeltacht is going to St. Louis, apparently to participate in the parade there.
- (f) Minister Woods will be visiting various universities.

3. As regards (a) above, it is suggested that the Minister's office might now approach Minister O'Malley and ask him whether he wishes the Embassy to seek an invitation on his behalf to any of the West Coast functions on 14 or 15 March.

4. As regards (c), the Minister will wish to consider the appropriateness of Minister Reynolds' plan, having regard to his own programme in New York.

5. In regard to (e), the office of the Minister for the Gaeltacht might similarly be approached concerning seeking an invitation either to the Irish Fellowship Group in Chicago on 17 March and/or the Celtic Lawyers Society in Detroit (date not yet known to us). The Department of the Taoiseach is inclined to favour Detroit but Ambassador Donlon recommended Chicago in his C.19 of 18 January.

6. With reference to (f), Minister Woods might be asked if he is interested in a Boston speaking engagement. It is however increasingly probable that any request for an invitation may now be too late for the organisers.

7. In the case of each of the Ministers concerned, it is recommended that the P.S.M. should request from his opposite numbers a copy of the Minister's programme.

8. Apparently Ministers were not asked to check the texts of any speeches they were making with the Department of the Taoiseach or with this Department.

*Amundson*

14 February 1980