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MS Curran  
PL C.C.

CONSULATE GENERAL OF IRELAND

Boston

Ms. Moran

please

every time  
cc ~~Curran~~

7/3

to 30/3/87

Boston file

Confidential

P.1/14

March 23, 1987

The Secretary  
Department of Foreign Affairs

Subject: Visit to Boston by John Hume, M.P., M.E.P.

Mr. Hume's visit (18-19 March) was coordinated by the Committee for a New Ireland. At lunch on 18 March he spoke to the Boston Bar Association. It was a vintage Hume speech, unexceptionable (at least to those familiar with his approach) except for a strong pitch for economic investment in N.I. and for the fact that he had to deal with a question on his attitude to the MacBride Principles (prompted no doubt by an article in The Boston Globe some days previously reporting his opposing arguments). He repeated his opposition to the Principles (mainly on the basis of the potential damage to investment in Northern Ireland) but he was conciliatory to proponents in the U.S. - "sincere but misguided" would not be an incorrect summary of his remarks in this regard.

On the afternoon of 18 March Mr. Hume spoke at a reception hosted by the Irish Society at Harvard University and later that evening was an honoured guest at a fundraiser in Charlestown for Field Day (Derry).

At a working breakfast hosted by Mayor Flynn on 19 March and attended by local investors and city/state economic planners the Irish Economic Research Project was launched. The aim of this initiative is to promote an economic relationship between Derry, Galway and Boston, with the aim of stimulating investment from this city in the northwest region of Ireland. John Hume expressed himself as being delighted with this development (which is deserving of a separate report) and he was fulsome in his praise for the Mayor and his advisers.

It should be added that the Consul General of Great Britain and the local representative of the Northern Ireland Industrial Development Board were at every function attended by Mr. Hume (with the exception of the student affair at Harvard.)

Patrick H. Curran  
Consul General

cc Ambassador



*Ask Curran about  
He Mallon's remarks on the  
Principles SD 3/13/87*

CONSULATE GENERAL OF IRELAND  
Boston

P.1/14

Confidential

March 23, 1987

The Secretary  
Department of Foreign Affairs

Subject: Visit to Boston by Seamus Mallon, M.P.

Seamus Mallon was in this area 14 - 18 March and was the featured speaker at the 250th. dinner of the Charitable Irish Society on 17 March.

His visit was coordinated by the Committee for a New Ireland, working in cooperation with Mayor Flynn's office and the Mayor's press secretary, Frank Costello, hosted a fundraiser for Mallon at his home on the evening of 14 March. Both Costello and Jim King of the C.N.I. took turns in introducing him to local contacts and media outlets.

A meeting with some political figures and members of the Irish-American Labor Coalition gave rise to problems in view of John Hume's attack on the MacBride Principles in a Boston Globe article some days previously. (Hume's reported remarks had offended some of the local proponents of the Principles and Mallon, as the available S.D.L.P. representative, was the recipient of the criticism).

In general terms Seamus Mallon's visit seems to have been successful and helpful. While attacking the record of Unionist intransigence in fairly trenchant terms in his speeches/public utterances he stressed the ultimate necessity for reconciliation and the viability and potential of the Anglo Irish Agreement.

*Patrick H. Curran*  
Patrick H. Curran  
Consul General

cc Ambassador

*Please CI*

*Boston file*

*Dunne/King*

*9/3.*

*MS. 3/3/87*

*what did  
he say  
about the  
Principles*