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Ambasáid na hÉireann Telephone: (202) 462-3939

FAX: (202) 232-5993



2234 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20008

EMBASSY OF IRELAND

PSS
Valle participants

Hr. Murray

and Anall

Connellon A1.

IMMEDIATE

FAX

23 OCTOBER 1992

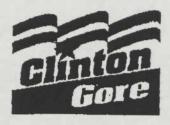
TO HQ FROM WASHINGTON FOR ASST SEC O HUIGINN FROM AMBASSADOR

- Purther to my telex yesterday, I am now enclosing copy of the statement (in effect a letter to Bruce Morrison) issued today by Governor Clinton on Irish issues.
- The statement is very much along the lines envisaged in our telex. The Clinton camp (somewhat tongue in cheek!) is signalling that the text merely seeks to reiterate positions previously taken in public. However, this is unlikely to ease the concern of the British Embassy here.

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October 23, 1992

The Konorable Bruce A. Korrison 2 Whitney Avenue, Suite 700 New Haven, CT 06510

Dear Bruces

Let me extend my thanks to you for your support and leadership as Chairman of Irish-Americans for Clinton/dore. Your commitment to the goals we all share -- a Democratic victory in November as well as a better life for all Americans -- has made a real difference.

I want to send by warm greetings and hearty thanks to all of you gathered together this evening in support of our campaign. The support of the Irish American community is equoisl to our election effort and I am grateful for your support.

In addition, let me recognise an individual who has provided tireless support for our ticket and who has made a real difference in the struggle for peace in Northern Ireland, Boston's distinguished Mayor, Ray Flynn. And it is a special honor for all of us to have the valued support and guidance of a good friend of Dangerats and Irish-Americans everywhere, Faul O'Dwyer.

The lasting contributions of the Irish-American occurrity are what have helped take this country strong. And I am pleased that today President bush signed into law a Congressional resolution designating March 1992 as "Trish-American Meritage Month." Because Ireland has given so much to our country, we owe a special debt in return. We command the Democratic leaders in Congress who acted to end the long history of discrimination against Ireland and other nations in our immigration laws. And we will work to ensure that political considerations do not hinder the workings of our courts in asylum cases.

Senator Gore and 'I share the goal of all Irish-Americans for pasce in Northern Ireland. We believe that the United States must reflect this concern more effectively in its foreign policy. We condemn the violence and bloodshed which has scarred Northern Ireland and oppose all attempts to achieve political goals through terror and violence. We call on peoples of nations throughout the world to and their financial support for those who seek to gain their goals by violence.

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> We are encouraged by the current talks between the constitutional parties of Northern Ireland and the British and Irish governments, A Clinton Administration will take a more active role in working with the leaders in these nations to achieve a just and leating settlement of the conflict. A personat and peaceful solution to the crisis in Novehern Ireland can only be achieved if the underlying causes of the strife and instability are dealt with vigorously, fairly and within a time-frame that quarantees genuine, substantial, and steady programs. I believe the appointment of a U.S. special envey to worthern Ireland could be a datalyst in the affort to secure a lacting peace.

> We believe that the British dovernment must do nors to oppose the job discrimination that has created unamployment levels two and a half times higher for Catholic workers than Frotestant workers. There can be no lasting settlement in Northern Ireland until such discrimination is ended. The MacGride Principles set forth appropriets guidelines for investment to help achieve these goals.

> We also believe that the British Government must establish zore effective safeguards against the wanton use of lathal force and against further collusion between the security forces and Protestant paramilitary groups.

> The people of Northern Ireland have endured more than two decades of bloodehed and devastation. Note than three thousand citizens have died in the continuing violence. A realistic solution to the suffering can be achieved only through political negotiations and the densent of the people, not by further acts of violence.

> Senstor dore and I look forward to working with you in the years sheed to sohieve these goals and bring peace and justice to Northern Ireland. But we must also join together in the fight for a better America.

> It is time to renew our hope for the future of this nation, our faith in the American people and our vision for the kind of country we can build together. Al fore and I have a plan to rebuild America.

> Our plan reflects the concerns of the Trish-American community who understand the value of family, hard work and community. We will dreate thousands of new jobs, by among other things, supporting small business and encouraging private investment in America. Our plan seeks to reward people who work hard and play by the rules, by referring velfare as we know it. We have a strong anti-Orime approach based around support for expanded communitybased law enforcement. And we will control the health care coats that are durrantly drippling our according and provide insurance for the 28 million people without it.

> Perhaps most important of all, Al Gore and I will make education a top priority, replacing rhatoric with results. Our

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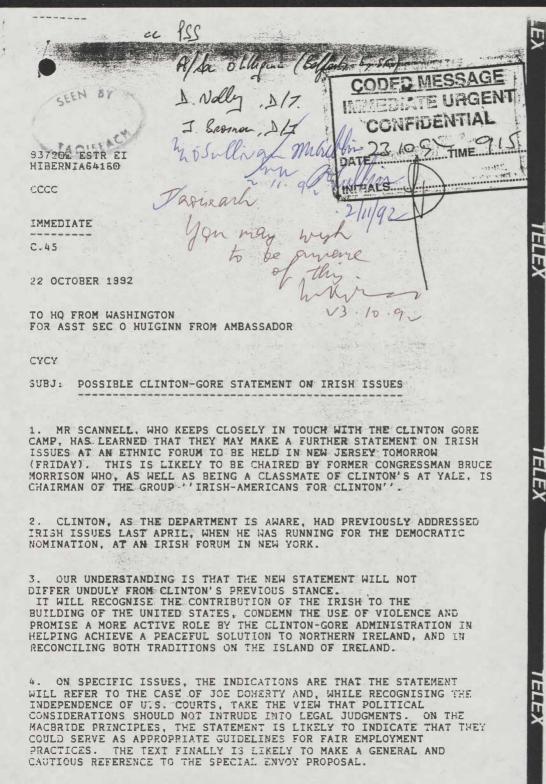
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plan calls for lifetime learning based around educational opportunity. We know that aducation of the next generation is one of the most important aims of government. Our young people must be prepared to compete in the global marketplace.

With your heip, we will win on Nevember 3 and have the opportunity to rebuild America together.

Prin Chieran

Bill Clinton



5. THE TIMING OF THE PROPOSED STATEMENT MUST BE VIEWED AS AN EFFORT BY THE CLINTON-GORE CAMPAIGN TO SHORE UP ITS FAIRLY SHALLOW IRISH-AMERICAN SUPPORT. PRIVATE POLLING BY THE DEMOCRATS, FOR INSTANCE, IS INDICATING THAT SUPPORT FOR CLINTON AMONG REAGAN-DEMOCRATS (BLUE COLLAR AND LOWER MIDDLE CLASS WHITES), MANY OF WHOM ARE IRISH-AMERICANS, IS SOFT. CLINTON'S STAND ON ABORTION-AND THE BUSH CAMPAIGN'S SUPPORT FOR FUNDING PRIVATE (MAINLY PAROCHIAL) SCHOOLS, IN PARTICULAR POSE PROBLEMS FOR CLINTON WITH THE IRISH AND CATHOLIC VOTE. THE STATEMENT THEREFORE IS AN ATTEMPT TO BOLSTER SUPPORT FOR CLINTON AMONG IRISH-AMERICANS, PARTICULARLY IN THE CRUCIAL STATES OF NEW JERSEY AND PENNSYLVANIA WHERE FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND THE JOE DOHERTY ISSUE HAVES A CERTAIN RESONANCE.

COMMENT

6. WHILE WE HAVE ONLY PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS OF WHAT THE STATEMENT MAY CONTAIN, IT POSES NO PROBLEM FOR US. THE BRITISH EMBASSY, ON THE OTHER HAND, WILL BE VERY CONCERNED IF THE REFERENCES TO JOE DOHERTY, THE MACBRIDE PRINCIPLES AND THE SPECIAL ENVOY ARE MAINTAINED. I MIGHT ADD THAT THE CLINTON CAMPAIGN HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY ANXIOUS FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE CAMPAIGN TO AVOID BEING SEEN TO HAVE CONTACT WITH EMBASSIES. HOWEVER, THROUGH MR SCANNELL'S INFORMAL CONTACTS AND THROUGH SENATOR KENNEDY'S OFFICE, WE HAVE HOPEFULLY BEEN ABLE TO INCORPORATE SOME OF OUR THINKING INTO THE DRAFT. WE SHOULD CAUTION, HOWEVER, THAT A DEFINITIVE TEXT HAS NOT YET BEEN DRAWS UP

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