

15 JAN 1988

PS/SOSNI
PS/MR STANLEY
PUS
SIR K BLOOMFIELD
MR STEPHENS DUS(B)
MRS HUTCHINGS
MR WOOD
MR INNES
MR ELLIOTT
MR HEWITT
MR MCCONNELL
LIAISON X 2
RUC

IMMEDIATE

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TELNO 86

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OF 142325Z JANUARY 88
AND TO IMMEDIATE NIO (B) DUBLIN
INFO SAVING BIS NEW YORK
VISIT TO IRELAND BY CONGRESSIONAL FRIENDS OF IRELAND
SUMMARY

1. ALTHOUGH SYMPATHETIC TO WHAT HMG IS TRYING TO DO IN NORTHERN IRELAND, DONNELLY AND FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION RETAIN MANY NATIONALIST INSTINCTS, AND DOUBTS ABOUT HMG'S POLICIES ON FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE. ARGUMENTS FOR FURTHER MONEY FOR THE INTERNATIONAL FUND WILL BE WELCOME.

DETAIL

2. MR VIGGERS MAY FIND IT HELPFUL TO HAVE AN ASSESSMENT FROM HERE OF CONGRESSMAN DONNELLY AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FRIENDS OF IRELAND DELEGATION, AND OF THE ISSUES LIKELY TO BE ON THEIR MINDS, BEFORE THE MINISTER SEES THEM IN LONDONDERRY ON 20 JANUARY.

3. THE DELEGATION WILL CONSIST OF CONGRESSMEN BRIAN DONNELLY (D - MASSACHUSETTS), PAT WILLIAMS (D - MONTANA) AND BERNARD DWYER (D - NEW JERSEY). WE HAVE NOT YET HAD FINAL CONFIRMATION THAT CONGRESSMAN BILL COYNE (D-PENNSYLVANIA) WILL BE JOINING THE PARTY. THEY WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY KEVIN PETERSON FROM THE HOUSE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS'S OFFICE, WHO IS THE CHIEF STAFFER TO THE FRIENDS OF IRELAND, AS WELL AS A PROTEGE OF TIP O'NEILL AND THE PRIME MOVER IN THE EFFORTS TO TRACE SPEAKER WRIGHT'S IRISH ANCESTRY. WE HAVE SENT PERSONALITY NOTES ON THE CONGRESSMEN TO LEACH (SIL DIVISION).

4. ALTHOUGH DONNELLY SUCCEEDED HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER FOLEY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE FRIENDS OF IRELAND EARLY LAST YEAR, HE HAS YET TO MAKE HIS PRESENCE FELT ON IRISH ISSUES APART FROM IMMIGRATION (PARTLY BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN LOW ON THE POLITICAL AGENDA). BUT WHAT EVIDENCE WE HAVE SUGGESTS THAT DONNELLY RETAINS AT LEAST SOME OF HIS EARLIER, GREENISH, INSTINCTS, OF WHICH ONE SYMPTOM WAS HIS MEMBERSHIP (LIKE THAT OF ALL OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION) OF BIAGGI'S AD HOC COMMITTEE ON IRISH AFFAIRS. AS THE MINISTER WILL SEE FROM THE PERSONALITY NOTES, DONNELLY'S CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT IN SOUTH BOSTON, LIKE THOSE OF DWYER AND COYNE, IS A STRONGLY ETHNIC, BLUE COLLAR, ONE. THE MAJOR CURRENT LOCAL ISSUE IS HOW TO HANDLE THE LARGE NUMBERS OF YOUNG ILLEGAL IRISH IMMIGRANTS WHO ARE NOT COVERED BY THE AMNESTY FOR THOSE WHO ARRIVED BEFORE 1982 AND WHO WILL BE HELPED ONLY SLIGHTLY BY PROPOSALS FROM DONNELLY AND SENATOR KENNEDY TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF VISAS FOR WEST EUROPEANS. DONNELLY'S FELLOW CONGRESSMAN FROM BOSTON, JOE KENNEDY, HAS TRIED TO OUT-FLANK THE DONNELLY/(TED) KENNEDY BILL BY INTRODUCING A MORE RADICAL AMNESTY PROPOSAL OF HIS OWN. BOTH THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND AND SIR KENNETH BLOOMFIELD MET DONNELLY DURING THEIR VISITS HERE LAST AUTUMN.

5. OF THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION, CONGRESSMEN WILLIAMS AND DWYER BOTH BELONG TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FRIENDS, AND NEITHER HAS A SIGNIFICANT TRACK RECORD ON IRISH ISSUES. CONGRESSMAN COYNE, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS LISTED IN THE CURRENT ISSUE OF THE PRO-IRA WEEKLY QUOTE THE IRISH PEOPLE UNQUOTE AS BEING ONE OF THOSE WHO HELPED DRAFT A QUESTIONNAIRE WHICH BIAGGI HAS SENT TO PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES. COYNE HAS ALSO TAKEN AN INTEREST IN THE WORKING OF THE FLAX TRUST IN BELFAST.

6. ACCORDING TO PETERSON, THE DELEGATION'S PROGRAMME NOW

SATURDAY 16 JANUARY
ARRIVE DUBLIN : SPEND WEEKEND PRIVATELY

MONDAY 18 JANUARY
MEETINGS AT LEINSTER HOUSE WITH THE TAOISEACH AND
THE TANAISTE, AND CALLS ON MR SPRING AND MR O'MALLEY.
BRIEFING BY DONNELLY OF BACKBENCH TDS ON IRISH IMMIGRATION
ISSUES.
DINNER GIVEN BY US AMBASSADOR

TUESDAY 19 JANUARY
PLANT TREE OUTSIDE IDA OFFICE IN DUNDALK : VISIT IFI
PROJECT
MEETING IN DUBLIN WITH RECIPIENTS OF QUOTE DONNELLY
VISAS UNQUOTE

WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY
CALL ON THE LORD MAYOR OF DERRY
VISIT TO UNITED TECHNOLOGIES PROJECT IN THE BOGSIDE
LUNCHEON GIVEN BY MR VIGGERS
MEETING WITH THE CATHOLIC AND PROTESTANT ARCHBISHOPS
VISIT TO EUROCENTRE WEST
DINNER GIVEN BY SDLP

THURSDAY 21 JANUARY
TRAVEL TO GALWAY
MEETING WITH MAYOR AND LOCAL TDS

WEEKEND SPENT PRIVATELY

7. OF THE ISSUES OF CONCERN TO THE CONGRESSMEN, UNDOUBTEDLY
THE MOST IMPORTANT IS FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND MACBRIDE. THERE HAVE
BEEN A NUMBER OF INDICATIONS RECENTLY, INCLUDING DONNELLY'S
TALK WITH SIR K BLOOMFIELD, THAT FEELING IS RUNNING HIGH AMONG
IRISH-AMERICAN POLITICIANS THAT HMG OUGHT TO BE MOVING FURTHER AND
FASTER ON MEASURES TO COMBAT EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION IN NORTHERN
IRELAND. IN THE RUN-UP TO ST PATRICK'S DAY, AND WITH THE
PRESIDENTIAL AND CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS IN THE AUTUMN IN MIND,
THERE IS A REAL DANGER THAT DONNELLY OR HIS MODERATE ALLIES MAY FEEL
THEMSELVES OBLIGED TO INTRODUCE A RESOLUTION CRITICISING HMG'S
ALLEGED LACK OF ACTION IN THIS FIELD, AND PERHAPS EVEN EXPRESSING
SOME SORT OF QUALIFIED SUPPORT FOR THE MACBRIDE PRINCIPLES. IF THAT
DOES NOT HAPPEN, OR EVEN IF IT DOES, WE CANNOT EXCLUDE A SURGE IN
SUPPORT FOR THE D'AMATO/FISH BILL, OR PERHAPS FOR SOME OTHER ACTION
ON THE HILL TO FURTHER THE MACBRIDE PRINCIPLES.

8. AGAINST THAT BACKGROUND, ANYTHING WHICH MR VIGGERS CAN DO
TO REASSURE DONNELLY AND HIS COLLEAGUES THAT HMG IS MOVING
AS FAR AND AS FAST AS POSSIBLE TOWARDS INTRODUCING FURTHER
LEGISLATION ON FAIR EMPLOYMENT IN NORTHERN IRELAND WILL BE
HELPFUL. IN ADDITION, AS THE MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE
LEGISLATION, MR VIGGERS MIGHT LIKE TO EXPLAIN TO THE CONGRESSMEN
THE ENORMOUS COMPLICATIONS OF LEGISLATING IN THIS AREA. THE MINISTER
MAY NEED TO OUTLINE HMG'S PLANS FOR THE FEA, IN THE LIGHT OF THE
RECENT LEAK.

9. APART FROM MACBRIDE, THE OTHER POLITICAL ISSUE OF INTEREST
TO THE CONGRESSMEN IS LIKELY TO BE THE LINKED QUESTION OF
EXTRADITION AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE, BOTH IN IRELAND
AND ON THE MAINLAND. DONNELLY MAY WELL PRESS THE MINISTER ON 3-JUDGE
COURTS, AND ON THE OUTCOME OF THE BIRMINGHAM BOMBERS BILL.

10. ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT, THE MAIN INTEREST OF THE VISIT IS
THE WORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUND. HERE THE CONGRESSMEN WILL WANT
REASSURANCE THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO DELAY, OR ANTI-NATIONALIST BIAS,
IN THE SPENDING OF US TAX DOLLARS. THEY MAY ALSO RAISE THE QUESTION
OF A CONTRIBUTION TO THE FUND BY THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. DONNELLY
AND OTHER SUPPORTERS OF THE FUND ON THE HILL WILL HAVE A CRUCIAL
ROLE TO PLAY IF WE ARE TO HAVE ANY CHANCE OF SECURING MONEY FOR THE
FUND IN FY 89 AND BEYOND. ANYTHING WHICH WE CAN DO TO PROVIDE THE
CONGRESSMEN WITH ARGUMENTS WHICH THEY CAN USE BACK HERE WILL BE
VERY WELCOME

11. FINALLY, MR VIGGERS MAY LIKE TO BRING THE CONGRESSMEN UP TO DATE ON THE POLITICAL AND SECURITY SITUATION IN THE PROVINCE, FOLLOWING THE ENNISKILLEN AND EKSUND INCIDENTS. ON THE POLITICAL SIDE, MR VIGGERS MAY WISH TO EXPLAIN HOW HMG SEES THE WAY FORWARD ON THE ANGLO-IRISH AGREEMENT, PARTICULARLY IF THE QUOTE TALKS ABOUT TALKS UNQUOTE BREAK DOWN, AND DESCRIBE THE PROGRESS WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE UNDER THE AGREEMENT.

12. FCO PLEASE ADVANCE TO PS/MR VIGGERS, BURNS (NIO (L)) AND LEACH (SIL DIVISION, NIO (L)) : NIO (B) PLEASE ADVANCE TO SIR K BLOOMFIELD, AND FELL AND WILSON (DED).

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SOME SORT OF DIVULGED SOURCE FOR THE WACBIDE PRINCIPLES. IT THAT
OFFERED BACK OF MIND IN THIS CASE AND BURNBY EVEN EXPRESSING
THEMSELVES ONCE TO INTERFERE A NEGOTIATION CRITICISING THE
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BEEN A NUMBER OF INDICATIONS RECENTLY. INCLUDING DOMINATE,
THE MOST IMPOUNABLE IS FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND WACBIDE. THERE HAVE
A OF THE ISSUES OF CONCERN TO THE CONGRESSMEN. UNDOUBTEDLY
WEEKEND SPENT PRIVATELY

MEETING WITH WACBIDE AND FELL AND
TRAVEL TO CAGWAY
THURSDAY ST JAMES'S

DINNER GIVEN BY SDFB
VISIT TO EDWARDSVILLE WEST

WACBIDE
WACBIDE