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14/8/87
cc MR Nesbitt

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L/8/15/MLR

Mr Chesterton

cc PS/Sofs (L&B)
PS/Min of S (L&B)
PS/PUS(B)
PS/Sir K Bloomfield
Mr Fell
Mr Elliott
Mr Blackwell 2/8
Mr R Wilson DED
Mr J McConnell
Mr Leach

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MEETING WITH SENATOR JOHN KERRY

You were present when PUS met Senator John Kerry on 10 August. Although most of the discussion centred on the general political, economic and security situation, the Senator raised the following points.

MacBride

In response to an inquiry about the Government's campaign against the MacBride Principles PUS explained that the Government's position had recently changed from one of attacking the Principles head-on to trying to focus on establishing fair employment practice in Northern Ireland. The Government would be publishing in September a Guide to effective equal opportunity practices which would be followed by legislative provisions. The Government's main concern over the Principles was their effect of discouraging foreign investment in Northern Ireland. Senator Kerry remarked that he had heard that the Irish had given a certain amount of support to the Government's policy. PUS replied that the Government had reached a considerable measure of agreement with the Irish Government and had also enjoyed strong support from John Hume. While not denying that a problem existed, PUS said that progress was being made - the position in Shorts was improving with the development of its factory in West Belfast likely to employ a number of Catholics; and Gallaher Ltd, a subsidiary of American Brands, was employing Catholics in roughly equal proportion to their number in the catchment area from which the firm drew its labour.

Immigration

Senator Kerry said that he had noticed in recent months a significant increase in the number of people with Irish accents

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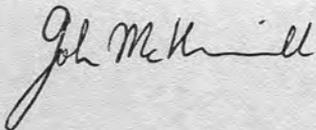
in the Boston area. Many of these were doubtless in the States illegally. This was a growing concern which he would likely be taking up with the US administration. He asked if the US Government had raised this issue with the UK Government. PUS said he was not aware that the issue had been raised; he was conscious however of a large degree of emigration from the Irish Republic, not least because of its serious economic problems.

Administration of Justice

The Senator suggested that 'opening up' the justice process would gain much support from the minority community. By this he meant not only the introduction of 3-judge courts but also a return to jury trials for scheduled offences. PUS explained that the administration of justice in Northern Ireland had been the subject of much discussion at IC meetings. The Irish had put strong pressure on the Government for the introduction of 3-judge courts although this had been resisted on the grounds of both principle and practice. The Government looked forward to a return to jury trials but in the present circumstances this was not possible. Difficulties remained over how to protect jurors and there was always the possibility of partial verdicts being given, depending on the composition of a jury. The Senator acknowledged these points but encouraged the Government to think positively about ways in which these problems could be overcome and of the benefits which might accrue from changes in the judicial system.

Anglo-Irish Agreement

The Senator said that the Agreement had been welcomed generally by his Senate colleagues. He personally saw it as a courageous step forward. He regretted the delay in providing the American contribution to the International Fund - nevertheless he said it was a considerable sum which compared favourably with other foreign aid programmes. PUS said that more importantly the contribution was a symbol of US support for the Agreement which was greatly valued by both the UK and Irish Governments.



J MCKERVILL
PS/PUS

11 August 1987

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cc Miss Thompson

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STORMONT HOUSE ANNEX

cc PS/S of S (L&B) - M
PS/Mr Stanley (L&B) - M
PS/PUS (B) - M
PS/Sir K Bloomfield - M
Mr Fell - M
Mr Chesterton
Mr Elliott - M
Mr Blackwell - M
Mr P. Wilson - M
Mr J McConnell - M
(without attachments)

MEETING WITH SENATOR JOHN KERRY

1. Following a request from the FCO late last week, PUS has agreed at short notice to meet Senator John Kerry (Democratic - Massachusetts) in London today at 4.30pm. PUS has met the Senator once before, in August 1985 (note of meeting at Annex C).

2. Both the Massachusetts Senators are Democrats (the other one being Edward Kennedy). Mr Kerry has a Boston Irish background and is at the green end of the Friends of Ireland group in Congress. His main interests are international and arms control issues, and he is an outspoken critic of many Reagan administration policies (eg on SDI, ABM Treaty Interpretation, Contra Aid, Gulf Reflagging/ Escorting). He is a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and is described as young, bright and generally well informed.

3. The major issue of concern to us in the USA at the moment is the campaign for the MacBride Principles. However, this has so far made little headway at Congressional level: Senator D'Amato's Bill has been stalled for some time (we hope permanently) in the Senate Finance Committee, while Congressman Fish's Bill is similarly mired in the House. Rather than majoring on MacBride, therefore, PUS may wish to offer a general review of the position in Northern Ireland, pointing particularly to the firm evidence provided by the

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Anglo-Irish Agreement of our understanding and respect for nationalist interests in the Province and the communality of our approach on a wide range of matters with the Irish Government. (A speaking note on the Agreement is attached). PUS may also wish to stress how much the generous American contribution towards the International Fund is valued throughout Ireland. (Congress authorised a \$120 million contribution - \$50 million in 1986 and \$35 million in 1987 and 1988).

4. The following briefing is attached:

Anglo-Irish Agreement/General Political situation - points to make

Fair Employment - points to make

MacBride Principles - points to make

Security Issues - points to make

Arms Embargo/Shorts/extradition - line to take if raised.

- ANNEX A - 15 July announcement
- ANNEX B - MacBride Principles
- ANNEX C - Note of 22 August 1985 meeting
- ANNEX D - Personality note on Senator Kerry

Stephen J. Leach

E J LEACH

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10 August 1987

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