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THE BRITISH EMBASSY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION LEADER

(To be completed by Comcen)

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THIS TRANSMISSION CONSISTS OF 8 PAGE(S) PLUS LEADER.

FROM S. L. Cowper-Coles Esq, Chancery,

TO Pat Thompson / Pat McAlister, DED (Archer Centre)
Belfast

FAX. TELEPHONE NUMBER (including area code) 011-44-232-732835

DEPARTMENT TO BE CHARGED Any

Signed. M. Murphy

BRITISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON FACSIMILE NUMBERS

BRITISH DEFENCE STAFF	:	898 4268
DEFENCE SUPPLY	:	898 4418
BRITISH NAVY STAFF	:	553 5908
U.K.D.P.O.	:	898 2496

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cover

U.S. POLICY TOWARDS NORTHERN IRELAND

INTRODUCTION

ON BEHALF OF SECRETARY BAKER -- WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE WOODROW WILSON CENTER'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES -- I AM HAPPY TO WELCOME YOU TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND TO WISH THE CENTER -- WHICH WAS FOUNDED IN 1969 -- A HAPPY AND SUCCESSFUL TWENTY-FIRST BIRTHYEAR.

THE CENTER IS TO BE COMMENDED FOR BRINGING TOGETHER LEADERS FROM IRELAND, THE U.K., AND THE U.S. TO EXAMINE THE DILEMMAS OF NORTHERN IRELAND AND TO SEARCH FOR SOLUTIONS TO NORTHERN IRELAND'S PROBLEMS -- VIOLENCE, UNEMPLOYMENT, DISCRIMINATION, AND POLITICAL ALIENATION.

THIS CONFERENCE ALSO PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO EVALUATE NORTHERN IRELAND'S SUCCESSES IN JOB CREATION, PROMOTION OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, AND RECONCILIATION BETWEEN THE COMMUNITIES, ACCOMPLISHMENTS WHICH MAY POINT THE WAY TO FURTHER PROGRESS.

WE ARE GRATIFIED THAT YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO BEGIN YOUR CONFERENCE ON NORTHERN IRELAND HERE AND THAT YOU HAVE INVITED ME AND OTHER STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS TO PARTICIPATE IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS.

2.

WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THIS CONFERENCE WILL INCREASE AMERICAN UNDERSTANDING OF THE ISLAND OF IRELAND AND STRENGTHEN OUR ABILITY TO ADVISE THE SECRETARY, THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS ON ISSUES AFFECTING ANGLO-IRISH RELATIONS AND NORTHERN IRELAND. INCREASED UNDERSTANDING WILL ENABLE THE U.S. TO SUPPORT YOUR EFFORTS MORE EFFECTIVELY.

WE BELIEVE THAT IN CHOOSING US AS YOUR HOST YOU ARE INDICATING THAT YOU SEE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AS A GOOD FRIEND OF IRELAND AND OF THE U.K., WHO IS PLAYING AN IMPORTANT SUPPORTIVE ROLE IN YOUR SEARCH FOR SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS OF NORTHERN IRELAND.

THE CENTER'S OFFICIALS WHO MADE THE DECISION MONTHS AGO TO ORGANIZE A CONFERENCE ON NORTHERN IRELAND AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME MUST HAVE BEEN GIFTED WITH SECOND SIGHT; THIS CONFERENCE IS OCCURRING AT THE SAME MOMENT AS SECRETARY OF STATE PETER BROOKE'S EFFORTS TO ARRANGE NEW TALKS, WHICH APPEAR TO BE BEARING FRUIT. WE ARE FOLLOWING SECRETARY BROOKE'S EFFORTS AND LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING YOUR VIEWS ON WHAT THEY PORTEND.

AS YOU ARE WELL AWARE, PRIVATE AMERICANS ARE ALSO VERY INTERESTED IN NORTHERN IRELAND. MANY WRITE TO THE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY BAKER, AND TO THEIR SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES. MOST AMERICANS - WHO FOLLOW NORTHERN IRELAND - ARE THOUGHTFUL AND AWARE OF THE DILEMMAS AND CHOICES CONFRONTING THOSE WHO ARE

3.

RESPONSIBLE FOR GOVERNING THE PROVINCE.

RECENTLY, THEIR LETTERS REVEAL A NEW FRUSTRATION. WRITERS ARE IMPATIENT THAT DESPITE THE GOOD NEWS FROM EUROPE AND SOUTHERN AFRICA, THERE IS LITTLE PROGRESS IN NORTHERN IRELAND. PERHAPS THIS CONFERENCE WILL CONTRIBUTE IN A MEANINGFUL WAY TO THE SEARCH FOR PEACE THEY AND WE ARE HOPING FOR.

OUR PEOPLE WANT TO KNOW WHAT U.S. POLICY IS AND WHAT THEIR GOVERNMENT IS DOING ABOUT NORTHERN IRELAND. I BELIEVE THAT THIS IS AN APPROPRIATE OCCASION TO REVIEW OUR POLICY:

U.S. POLICY

THE UNITED STATES ADVOCATES PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS OF NORTHERN IRELAND. CONSEQUENTLY, WE SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND IRELAND TO USE THE ANGLO-IRISH AGREEMENT TO ADDRESS THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, AND SECURITY PROBLEMS OF NORTHERN IRELAND.

THIS MEANS, IN OUR VIEW, PROMOTING EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY IN EMPLOYMENT AND IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE, ENCOURAGING JOB-PRODUCING INVESTMENT, FINDING ACCEPTABLE POLITICAL SOLUTIONS, AND ELIMINATING TERRORISM.

4.

DIALOGUE AND RECONCILIATION.

OUR COMMITMENT TO PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS IS A PRIMARY REASON WHY THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR IRELAND, WHICH SEEKS TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RECONCILIATION BETWEEN UNIONISTS AND NATIONALISTS THROUGHOUT IRELAND.

IN NORTHERN IRELAND, THE U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL SEEKS TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS OF THE TWO COMMUNITIES AND AMERICAN FRIENDS OF IRELAND AND THE U.K. TO MEET IN A FRIENDLY, NON-PARTISAN SETTING AND CONSIDER SOLUTIONS TO NORTHERN IRELAND'S PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, CONTRARY TO SOME RECENT PRESS REPORTS, WE HAVE NOT SPONSORED ANY SECRET TALKS.

THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ALSO ENCOURAGES THE EFFORTS OF PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS WORKING FOR RECONCILIATION.

SUPPORT FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- THE U.S. GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHERN IRELAND WITH THE HOPE THAT ECONOMIC PROGRESS WILL FACILITATE PEACEFUL POLITICAL ACCOMMODATION.
- THE U.S. ACTIVELY ENCOURAGES INVESTMENT IN NORTHERN IRELAND.

5.

- THE U.S. OPPOSES FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL U.S. LEGISLATION TO FORCE FIRMS TO ADHERE TO THE MACBRIDE PRINCIPLES, SINCE WE BELIEVE THAT U.S. LEGISLATION WOULD INHIBIT JOB-CREATING INVESTMENT.
- WE ALSO OPPOSE U.S. LEGISLATION BECAUSE WE FEAR IT COULD INTERFERE WITH FIRMS' OBLIGATION TO ADHERE TO BRITISH LAW, BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THAT THE NEW EMPLOYMENT LAW MAKES U.S. LAWS UNNECESSARY, AND BECAUSE THE RECOGNIZED LEADERS OF THE NATIONALIST COMMUNITY HAVE OPPOSED SUCH U.S. LAWS.

SUPPORT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.

- THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IS AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY. OUR CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS EXTENDS TO NORTHERN IRELAND.
- OUR EFFORTS TO PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS THERE INCLUDE STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE EFFORTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND IRELAND TO PROMOTE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN EMPLOYMENT AND FAIRNESS IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

OPPOSING TERRORISM

- COMMITMENT TO PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS MEANS THAT THE U.S. REJECTS TERRORISM FROM ALL QUARTERS - LOYALIST AND REPUBLICAN - AND ENCOURAGES AMERICANS TO REJECT ORGANIZATIONS WHICH SUPPORT TERRORISM.

6.

- THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ASKS AMERICANS NOT TO GIVE FINANCIAL AID TO TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING THE IRISH REPUBLICAN ARMY.
- WE REFUSE VISAS TO SUPPORTERS OF TERRORISM - AS WE HAVE IN THE CASE OF GERRY ADAMS.
- WE SUPPORT THE EXTRADITION OR DEPORTATION OF CONVICTED TERRORISTS TO THE PLACE WHERE THEY WERE CONVICTED - AS WE HAVE WITH JOE DOHERTY.
- WE WORK WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS TO PREVENT ARMS SHIPMENTS TO TERRORIST GROUPS IN NORTHERN IRELAND.
- WE ENCOURAGE ANGLO-IRISH COOPERATION AGAINST TERRORISM.

A *the fund*
THE FUND

- A *Ireland*
- THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND *Ireland* IS A TANGIBLE EXPRESSION OF U.S. POLICY TOWARDS NORTHERN IRELAND.
 - THE FUND ADDRESSES THE ECONOMIC CAUSES OF NORTHERN IRELAND'S TROUBLES AND OFFERS HOPE FOR OVERCOMING THEM.
 - SINCE 1986, THE U.S. HAS CONTRIBUTED \$130 MILLION TO THE FUND - OVER 85 PERCENT OF THE FUND'S WORKING CAPITAL.

7.

- WE WERE PLEASED BY THE EC DECISION TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE FUND AND HOPE OTHER DONORS WILL FOLLOW.
- WE BELIEVE THE DIRECTORS OF THE FUND ARE DOING A FINE JOB AND ARE USING THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION ACCORDING TO THE INTENT OF CONGRESS.
- THE FUND HAS A PROVEN TRACK RECORD IN MEETING ITS OBJECTIVES, AND THE U.S. IS COMMITTED TO THE FUND'S CONTINUED SUCCESS. *B*

WE RECOGNIZE THAT WHILE THE U.S. CAN PLAY A POSITIVE SUPPORTING ROLE, IT IS UP TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, IN COOPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF IRELAND, TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF NORTHERN IRELAND.

CONSEQUENTLY, THE U.S. DOES NOT TAKE THE LEAD IN SEEKING SOLUTIONS, NOR DO WE TAKE SIDES IN THE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN IRELAND AND THE U.K. INSTEAD, WE SUPPORT MUTUALLY-AGREED DECISIONS OF THE U.K. AND IRELAND. WE HAVE SUPPORTED THE ANGLO-IRISH AGREEMENT AND THE FUND. WE BELIEVE BOTH CONTRIBUTE GREATLY TO NORTHERN IRELAND'S WELFARE. SHOULD THE U.K. AND IRELAND TOGETHER EVOLVE NEW SOLUTIONS, THE U.S. WOULD SIMILARLY ACCEPT THEIR DECISION.

WE FOLLOW EVENTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND CLOSELY NOT TO ENABLE US TO INTERFERE OR TO INTERCEDE, BUT TO UNDERSTAND AND TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENTS WHO BEAR THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR NORTHERN IRELAND.

8.

WE BELIEVE THAT OUR EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH BOTH IRELAND AND THE UNITED KINGDOM ENHANCE OUR ABILITY TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE.

IT IS OFTEN NOTED THAT MILLIONS OF AMERICANS TRACE THEIR ANCESTRIES TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AND TO IRELAND, BUT OUR POLICY TOWARDS THESE TWO VERY CLOSE FRIENDS IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL AMERICANS. THEREFORE OUR POLICY MUST BE BASED ON VALUES ALL AMERICANS SHARE: COMMITMENTS TO JUSTICE, FAIR PLAY, EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, AND GOVERNMENT BY THE CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED -- VALUES WHICH ARE ALSO SHARED BY THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND AND OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. THE FACT THAT THESE VALUES ARE SHARED ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC MAKES OUR TASK EASIER.

I HAVE JUST REVIEWED U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY REGARDING NORTHERN IRELAND, BUT WE SHOULD NOT FORGET THE "PRIVATE SECTOR".

GOVERNMENT POLICY IS ENHANCED BY THE EFFORTS OF THOUSANDS OF PRIVATE CITIZENS WORKING AS INDIVIDUALS AND THROUGH ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS CO-OPERATION IRELAND, PROJECT CHILDREN, AND THE AMERICAN-IRELAND FUND AND MANY OTHERS WHO ARE MAKING WONDERFUL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CAUSE OF PEACE AND RECONCILIATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND. WE ENDORSE THEIR EFFORTS AS WE ENDORSE YOUR EFFORTS TODAY TO INCREASE UNDERSTANDING OF NORTHERN IRELAND.

THANK YOU.