

# NATIONAL ARCHIVES

## IRELAND



<b>Reference Code:</b>	2013/100/1099
<b>Creation Date(s):</b>	16 October 1983
<b>Extent and medium:</b>	2 pages
<b>Creator(s):</b>	Department of the Taoiseach
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BM Carthy,  
Bonan  
14/10/43  
for your file  
7/11/43

cc Mc Lillis  
Mr J F O'Connell,  
(Dept. Transport)  
PSM.

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ATTENTION ALAN FORDE, FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
FROM THE FIANNA FAIL PRESS OFFICE

SPEECH BY MR. C. J. HAUGHEY, TD, LEADER OF FIANNA FAIL AT  
BODENSTOWN 16/10/1943

ONCE AGAIN OUR ANNUAL VISIT TO BODENSTOWN GIVES US THE OPPORTUN  
ITY  
TO REAFFIRM OUR ADHERENCE TO THE REPUBLICAN IDEAL.

IT IS VERY NECESSARY THAT WE DO SO AT THIS TIME WHEN IT SEEMS TO  
HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY POPULAR TO DECRY THE REPUBLICAN IDEAL  
AND INDEED THE NATIONAL AIM OF REUNIFICATION.

THE FIRST AIM OF FIANNA FAIL IS NOW AS IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN TO TO  
SECURE THE UNITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF IRELAND AS A REPUBLIC.

IF THERE ARE THOSE WHO WISH TO DISMISS THAT SIMPLE STATEMENT OF  
A POLITICAL OBJECTIVE AS RHETORIC THEY ARE FREE TO DO SO BUT THEY  
WILL NOT DETER US FROM CONTINUING TO SAY IT CLEARLY AND UNEQUIV-  
OCALLY.

WE STAND ON THE FIRM GROUND THAT THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND  
POLITICAL ARRANGEMENTS IMPOSED BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT SIXTY  
YEARS AGO HAVE FAILED AND THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT MUST NOW  
URGENTLY FACE UP TO THAT REALITY.



THE SOLUTION OF THE TRAGEDY OF THE NORTH REQUIRES ACTION BY THE TWO SOVEREIGN GOVERNMENTS INVOLVED. THE PROBLEM IS THEREFORE AN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIR AND WE MUST MOBILIZE INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR A JOINT EFFORT TO ACHIEVE A SOLUTION. IN PARTICULAR WE ARE ENTITLED TO LOOK FOR EUROPEAN SUPPORT AND GOODWILL. IRELAND AND BRITAIN ARE BOTH MEMBERS OF THE EEC AND THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE. WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE STATING CLEARLY THAT IN THEIR VIEW THE TRAGEDY OF NORTHERN IRELAND HAS GONE ON FOR FAR TOO LONG AND CALLING ON THE TWO GOVERNMENTS TO JOIN TOGETHER IN PROVIDING A SOLUTION.

THE TIME HAS COME FOR BRITAIN TO CARRY OUT A MAJOR REASSESSMENT OF ITS POSITION, AND ITS POLICIES ON NORTHERN IRELAND. NORTHERN IRELAND IS NOT A BRIGHT SPOT FOR BRITAIN. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE LIKE TO REGARD BRITAIN AS A NATION DEDICATED TO PEACE AND ON THE SIDE OF FREEDOM AND JUSTICE IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. THE EXISTENCE OF THE SITUATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND IS A REFLECTION OF BRITISH POLICY AND ITS REPUTATION AROUND THE WORLD. BRITAIN OWES IT NOT ALONE TO THE IRISH PEOPLE BUT ALSO TO HER OWN PEOPLE AND TO HER POSITION IN THE WORLD TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BRING THE PRESENT TRAGEDY TO AN END.

WE SEEK RECONCILIATION BASED ON JUSTICE, MUTUAL RESPECT AND DEMOCRACY AND OUR AIM IS TO HAVE THE COMMON NAME OF IRISHMAN ACCEPTED AND HONOURED IN EVERY PART OF AN ISLAND OF IRELAND THROUGHOUT WHICH PEACE AND HARMONY PREVAIL.

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