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IRELAND



Reference Code:	2015/51/1379
Creation Date(s):	13 June 1985
Extent and medium:	3 pages
Creator(s):	Department of Foreign Affairs
Access Conditions:	Open
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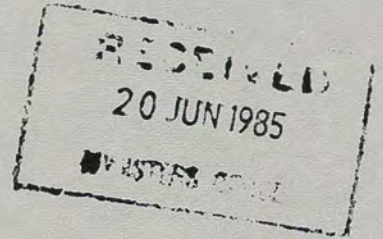
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CONSULATE GENERAL OF IRELAND

SAN FRANCISCO

13 June, 1985



PO 20

The Secretary
Department of Foreign Affairs

Dear P.S.M.,

I attach for information a copy of my report of the visit of Mr. John Hume, Leader of S.D.L.P. to Northern California from 28 - 29 May, 1985.

Yours sincerely,

Anne M. Webster

Anne M. Webster
Acting Consul General

AMW/pobw
Enclosure



Visit of Mr. John Hume, M.P., M.E.P.

1. Mr. John Hume visited Northern California on a 1½ day visit from 28 - 29 May, 1985. A copy of his itinerary is attached.
2. In the course of his visit Mr. Hume was guest speaker at three major events hosted by the California Irish Forum - in Sacramento, San Jose and San Francisco. All three events were well attended and attracted several influential individuals who had not previously attended the Irish Forum.
3. In the course of his visit to the State Capitol at Sacramento, Mr. Hume had substantive discussions (separately) with the three main power brokers - Speaker Willy Brown (D), leader of the Assembly; President Pro Tem David Roberti (R), leader of the Senate; and Lieutenant Governor Leo McCarthy (D). All three were deeply impressed and appreciated the opportunity to "hear first hand the one voice of reason and hope in Northern Ireland". (Leo McCarthy)
4. Mr. Hume met with several other key politicians including U.S. Congresswoman, Sala Burton (D) who introduced him at the Forum dinner in San Francisco; State Senator Petrus and San Jose Mayor, Tom McEnery. San Jose, centred as it is in the Silicon Valley, is an area of major economic importance and is the home base of many companies with Irish subsidiaries. I understand that Mr. Hume discussed economic investment in N.I. with Mayor McEnery.
5. Media coverage of the visit was excellent - the San Francisco Examiner (Jim Heavey) ran an editorial entitled "Northern Ireland's Broader Context". The Hume visit was the main feature in the June edition of the Irishman. In addition, T.V. stations - San Francisco's Channel 4 and Sacramento's Channel 13 - featured the visit during prime-time news round-up. The coincidence of these briefings with the N.I. local government elections ensured that media coverage in this area, at least, was more balanced and thoughtful than might otherwise have been expected in the light of Sinn Fein's recent showing in the polls. It also ensured that the SDLP philosophy was adequately reported at a time of heightened awareness generally.
6. Mr. Hume also used this opportunity to establish an SDLP fundraising network in Northern California based in San Francisco. In addition to general positive exposure afforded by the Irish Forum functions and related media coverage, two fundraising events were also organized - a cocktail party at the home of Maryon Davies Lewis (American Irish Foundation) and a meeting following the Forum dinner in San Francisco. I understand that the fundraising effort was satisfactory although in my view not sufficiently focused. More important, however, was the emergence of a nucleus of fundraisers who intend to continue and develop the effort locally.
7. Overall, the visit was highly successful - for the SDLP in explaining their position to a singularly influential sector of Irish America; for the California Irish Forum and finally for the Irish Government in ensuring that the authoritative voice of constitutional nationalism in Northern Ireland reaches a representative audience.

Anne M. Webster

Anne M. Webster
Acting Consul General



Visit of Mr. John Hume, M.P., M.E.P. to Northern California 28 - 29 May, 1985

SAN FRANCISCO

Wednesday, 28 May

12:00 Lunch hosted by Acting Consul General at Vanellis Restaurant, Pier 39

3:00 PM Meeting with Pat Goggins, Executive Director Irish Forum at 703 Market Street, Suite 711 San Francisco. Tel: (415) 777-2411

6:00 PM Reception hosted by Maryon Davies Lewis 2900 Broadway, San Francisco, Ca. 94115 Tel (415) 567-5776

Thursday, 29 May

8:30 AM Breakfast meeting with Media at the Union Pacific Restaurant.

9:30 AM Depart San Francisco by car for Sacramento with Patrick Goggins, Exec. Director, Irish Forum (approx. 1 hour drive).

SACRAMENTO

10:30 AM Meetings with Senator David Roberti (R) President Pro Tem of the Senate; Speaker Willy Brown (D), Lieutenant Governor Leo McCarthy (D) and Senator Lou Papan

12 Noon Guest Speaker at a lunch hosted by the Irish Forum, Sacramento

Meeting with Editorial Board - Sacramento Bee.

Depart by car for San Jose.

SAN JOSE

5:30 - 6:30 PM Guest Speaker at a Reception hosted by the Irish Forum, San Jose.

6:45 PM Depart by car for San Francisco - 1½ hour drive

SAN FRANCISCO

7:45 PM Guest Speaker at a Dinner hosted by Irish Forum at the West St. Francis - Union Square

10 PM Private meeting with 10-14 potential donors to SDLP.