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F A X

16 NOVEMBER 1992

TO EQ FROM WASHINGTON  
FOR ASST SEC O HUIGINN FROM B SCANNELL

*Pl. simulate*  
*RSM*  
*PSS*  
*D/T.*  
*Mr J. Brennan*  
*Mr. A. Brennan*  
*Joint Sec*  
*Amb London*

1. I am attaching statement on the Northern Ireland Talks released by the State Department spokesman this afternoon.
2. The statement is as anticipated and is almost identical to the text sent to you some time ago. State Department officials were anxious that, having welcomed the Talks, they should mark their conclusion in a positive manner, pointing out the progress achieved and the possibility of the dialogue being resumed. We encouraged them in this approach.

*BS*

(1 PAGE FOLLOWS).

BS/nc

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

**Office of the Assistant Secretary/Spokesman**

**For Immediate Release**

**November 16, 1992**

**STATEMENT BY RICHARD BOUCHER, SPOKESMAN**

**NORTHERN IRELAND TALKS**

The United States notes the conclusion on November 10 of nearly six months of talks on the future of Northern Ireland and Anglo-Irish relations. The talks covered fundamental aspects of the internal, North/South and East/West relationships. We recognize that the issues in the talks are complex, the hurdles many, and the challenges great. But we welcome the efforts made to date and are encouraged by the willingness all sides have shown in taking risks for peace and in seeking ways to put aside the sterile divisions of the past.

To the two governments and the political parties involved in this historic undertaking, we extend our support and our hopes that the informal consultations to which the parties are committed will help them find a way forward in their dialogue. We hope that all sides will show renewed dedication to finding common ground and building on the progress made to date.

With patience and good will, the talks should be able to succeed in developing new arrangements that respond to the deepest longings of both communities for peace and reconciliation. Such an outcome will be a victory for constitutional politics and a clear message that dialogue and cooperation--not violence and intimidation--are the only way to secure the future of the peoples of Northern Ireland.