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INITIALS <i>[Signature]</i>	

*cc: PST
PSS
Mr. F. Murray
Mr. D. O'Donovan
Ambassador Sunde
file
3/3/93
1/3*

26 FEBRUARY 1993

C.17

*to Sullivan
for 1/5 visit*

TO HQ FROM WASHINGTON
FOR A/SEC O HUIGINN FROM B SCANNELL

CYCY

VISIT TO WASHINGTON OF MR JOHN HUME, MP, MEP 24 FEBRUARY 1993

- MR HUME OVER THE YEARS HAS MADE A CONSCIOUS EFFORT TO CULTIVATE CONGRESSIONAL CONTACTS IN WASHINGTON AND HIS MEETINGS ON CAPITOL HILL WERE VERY MUCH A PART OF THIS ONGOING PROCESS. ON THIS OCCASION, HE MET WITH SPEAKER FOLEY, SENATORS KENNEDY, BRADLEY, KERREY AND CONGRESSMAN MARKKY.
- MR HUME'S MAIN PRESENTATION THROUGHOUT WAS TWO-FOLD - ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL. HE STRESSED THE NEED FOR INWARD INVESTMENT IN N. IRELAND PARTICULARLY IN THE NATIONALIST AREAS. HE SAID THAT HIS CURRENT VISIT TO THE U.S. WAS TO BUILD UPON THE SUCCESSES CREATED BY BOSTON-DERRY-GALWAY (BIV) VENTURES. HE OUTLINED THE SUCCESS OF BIV IN CREATING MUCH-NEEDED EMPLOYMENT IN DERRY - THE SUCCESS OF DERRY IN ATTRACTING NEW INVESTMENT FROM UNITED TECHNOLOGIES AND SEAGATE AND THE NEED TO CREATE SIMILAR STRUCTURES ON THE BIV MODEL FOR OTHER AREAS IN N. IRELAND. HUME PRAISED THE PIVOTAL ROLE OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR IRELAND, THE FACT THAT IT HAD SUPPORTED 2,800 PROJECTS TO DATE AND THAT, WHEN THE PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE IFI COME TO FRUITION, UP TO 18,000 JOBS WILL HAVE BEEN CREATED.
- ON THE POLITICAL PROCESS, HUME ARGUED THAT, EVEN THOUGH THE ROUND TABLE TALKS HAD BEEN SUSPENDED, CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE. HUME WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE OPENNESS AND WILLINGNESS OF THE NEW IRISH GOVERNMENT AND FELT THAT THE TANAISTE HAD ACTED WISELY IN STRESSING THAT HE WOULD HAVE AN OPEN DOOR TO UNIONIST POLITICIANS AND THAT HE WAS COMMITTED TO RESTARTING THE TALKS PROCESS. IN THE IMMEDIATE SHORT-TERM HOWEVER, HUME DID NOT HOLD OUT ANY HOPES FOR THE RESUMPTION OF TALKS BEFORE THE N. IRELAND LOCAL ELECTIONS IN MAY. THE STRATEGY OF THE SDLP WAS, HAVING MOVED THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO A POSITION OF NEUTRALITY ON IRISH UNITY AS INSCRIBED IN THE ANGLO-IRISH AGREEMENT, TO ENCOURAGE THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO ASSUAGE UNIONIST FEARS THAT A UNITED IRELAND WOULD NOT POSE A THREAT TO THEIR IDENTITY.

Dunneach

*You may wish to see — in particular references to
the Special Survey proposal. Jhr 2/3/93*

4. ~~AT THE~~ ~~OUTSET~~, SPEAKER FOLEY EXPLAINED THE NEW DYNAMIC IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DUE TO THE INFLUX OF NEW MEMBERS. MANY OF HIS NEW DEMOCRATIC COLLEAGUES WERE USED TO STRONG AND CONTROLLED LEADERSHIP FROM THEIR PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE STATE ASSEMBLIES. ON CAPITOL HILL, THE SAME RIGIDITY DID NOT ~~ALERT~~ AND SOME OF THE NEW DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS HAD YET TO ADAPT TO THE MORE OPEN TEMPERAMENT AND STYLE OF THE HOUSE. DEMOCRATIC COHESIVENESS WAS ENCOURAGED, THE SPEAKER SAID, BY THE CLEAR MANDATE GIVEN THEM THROUGH THE ELECTION OF PRESIDENT CLINTON. ON THE REPUBLICAN SIDE, IN CONTRAST, NEW MEMBERS WERE A LITTLE OUT OF CONTROL AS THE REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP WAS IN TATTERS AND HAD YET TO FORMULATE A CLEAR RESPONSE TO THE DEMOCRATIC PROPOSALS. (MSL)

5. MR HUME REFERRED TO THE MAJOR COVERAGE THE SPECIAL ENVOY ISSUE HAD RECEIVED IN THE BRITISH AND IRISH MEDIA OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS AND THE LINKAGE OF THE SPEAKER'S NAME TO HEAD UP A FACT-FINDING/INFORMATION VISIT ON THE MATTER. MR HUME SAID HE RAISED THE ENVOY ISSUE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR N. IRELAND ON 26 NOVEMBER AND HAD GOT SIR PATRICK MAYHEW TO SUPPORT THE IDEA OF AN ENVOY IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD. HIS VIEW WAS THAT IF A SPECIAL ENVOY WAS APPOINTED IN THIS AREA, IT COULD MAKE AN ENORMOUS DIFFERENCE IN THE SALES OF IRISH GOODS (WITHOUT DISPLACING US GOODS), AND ALSO IN THE MARKETING AND PROMOTION OF INWARD INVESTMENT FOR IRELAND. SPEAKER FOLEY SAID THAT IN RECENT WEEKS, HE HAD SEVERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PRESIDENT AND THE ADMINISTRATION BUT THAT 'ON NO OCCASION, THANK GOD, DID THE N. IRELAND QUESTION OR ENVOY ARISE'. HE HAD, SINCE THE PRESIDENT TOOK UP OFFICE, 'NEVER RAISED THE ENVOY QUESTION, NEVER DISCUSSED IT, NEVER MADE A COMMITMENT'. THERE HAD BEEN 'SOME BACKGROUND DISCUSSION ON IT' BY ONE OF HIS STAFF BUT NO MORE. (SEE MY REPORT OF 23 FEBRUARY). (NB)

6. AT AN EARLY TRANSITION MEETING IN LITTLE ROCK, THE SPEAKER SAID THAT, AT THE END OF A THREE-HOUR DINNER WITH THE PRESIDENT-ELECT, MRS CLINTON AND VICE-PRESIDENT GORE, HE EXPRESSED THE VIEW IN SOMEWHAT OF A 'LECTURING TONE' THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS CREATED A PROBLEM FOR HIMSELF BY GIVING IN TO SOME OF THE DEMANDS OF MORE MILITANT IRISH AMERICANS REGARDING THE MACBRIDE PRINCIPLES, A TRAVEL VISA FOR GERRY ADAMS, AND THE SPECIAL ENVOY. HIS VIEW WAS THAT THE UNIOBSTS WOULD NEVER ACCEPT A SPECIAL ENVOY AND THE INITIATIVE WAS THEREFORE A NON-STARTER. THE ADMINISTRATION NATURALLY WOULD BE CAREFUL ON HOW POLICY SHOULD BE PRESENTED AS THEY HAD TO BE 'SENSITIVE TO CAMPAIGN PROMISES' AND THE PRESIDENT WAS WATCHFUL OF THIS. MR HUME FELT THAT THE ECONOMIC ENVOY WOULD BE A USEFUL AVENUE TO PURSUE AND A POSSIBLE AVENUE FOR THE PRESIDENT TO FULFILL HIS COMMITMENT. HE ADDED THAT HE WOULD SUGGEST SOME WORDING FOR THE FRIENDS OF IRELAND ST PATRICK'S DAY STATEMENT. THE SPEAKER ALSO EXTENDED AN INVITATION TO HUME TO ATTEND LUNCH ON 16 MARCH HE WAS HOSTING IN HONOR OF THE TAOISEACH.

SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY

7. A SHORTER BUT SIMILAR EXCHANGE OCCURED WITH SENATOR KENNEDY ON THE ENVOY ISSUE. HUME EMPHASISED THE MARKETING AND INVESTMENT ROLE THAT AN ECONOMIC ENVOY COULD FULFIL. WHEN QUESTIONED BY A MEMBER OF KENNEDY'S STAFF ON WHETHER THE ROLE OF AN ECONOMIC ENVOY COULD EXTEND INTO THE HUMAN RIGHTS AREA, MR HUME REMARKED THAT IF THE ENVOY (DURING HIS ECONOMIC MISSION) CAME UP WITH IDEAS OR PROPOSALS, HE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE LISTENED TO.

8. ON THE PROSPECTS FOR THE RESUMPTION OF TALKS, SENATOR KENNEDY ASKED IF UNIONIST INTRANSIGENCE WOULD CONTINUE HUME REPLIED THAT 'IF PAISLEY AND MOLYNEAUX CONTINUED TO GO THE WAY THEY ARE GOING, I WOULD ASK THE TWO GOVERNMENTS TO TAKE CHARGE'.

COMMENT

9. THERE IS APPARENTLY SOME QUESTIONING WITHIN THE STATE DEPARTMENT ON HOW THEIR EARLY THINKING ON THE SPECIAL ENVOY PROPOSAL GOT INTO THE PUBLIC DOMAIN AND, TO SOME DEGREE, DERAILED. THE LINE DIVISION WITHIN THE STATE DEPARTMENT TOLD ME CONFIDENTIALLY THAT PRELIMINARY EXPLORATION OF THE ENVOY ISSUE WAS NOT DONE THROUGH THE 'REGULAR CHANNELS'. THE SPEAKER IS ALSO CLEARLY UNCOMFORTABLE THAT THE SPOTLIGHT HAD BEEN PUT ON HIM AND THAT STAFF EXPLORATION OF THE 'ENVOY' ISSUE HAD GOT SOMEWHAT OUT OF HAND. SHOULD THE SPEAKER BE TEMPTED TO PLAY A ROLE ON THE ENVOY ISSUE, HE WOULD VERY LIKELY WISH TO SEE HIS FRIEND AND FORMER COLLEAGUE, BRIAN DONNELLY, APPOINTED AS U.S. AMBASSADOR TO DUBLIN BEFORE VENTURING INTO WHAT HE UNDOUBTEDLY SEES AS DANGEROUS WATERS.

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