

FONIO 001/09

NIO BELFAST

PC9859

GRS 330
UNCLASSIFIED
FM DUBLIN 081805Z NOV 83
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 342 OF 8 NOVEMBER 1983
INFO PRIORITY NIO BELFAST
INFO SAVING WASHINGTON, UKMIS NEW YORK

PRIVATE OFFICE
PUS
MR. BOURN
MR. MERIFIELD
MR. GILLILAND
Sir EWART BELL
MR. BUXTON
MR. COULSON
MR. REEVE
LIAISON x 2
RUC

09 NOV 1983
Rec'd on.....

MY TELNO 340: ANGLO-IRISH SUMMIT: DAIL STATEMENT

1. THE TAOISEACH MADE A STATEMENT IN THE DAIL TODAY ON HIS MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER.

2. HE SAID THAT ITS PRINCIPLE PURPOSE WAS TO IMPROVE AND DEEPEN THE RELATIONSHIP ORIGINALLY DEVELOPED SOME YEARS AGO. THE DOCUMENTS DESCRIBING THE WORK OF THE ANGLO-IRISH INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL WERE A RECORD OF CONSIDERABLE ACHIEVEMENT. HE HAD STRESSED THE VERY REAL DANGERS ARISING FROM ALIENATION AMONG THE MINORITY POPULATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND AND URGED DEEP AND URGENT REFLECTION ON HOW THIS PROBLEM MIGHT BE TACKLED. THE CHALLENGE TO BOTH GOVERNMENTS WAS TO ASK:

'' NOT WHAT WE WANT, BUT WHAT WORKABLE ARRANGEMENTS CAN WE DEVISE TOGETHER WHICH WILL GIVE TO THE PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND WHAT THEY WANT AND WHAT THEY NEED. THEIR FUNDAMENTAL REQUIREMENT IS FOR STABILITY AND ORDER. THE TEST OF ANY SOLUTION MUST BE THAT IT BE REALISTIC AND ANSWER THE BASIC NEED FOR IDENTIFICATION BY THE PEOPLE WITH THE INSTITUTIONS OF GOVERNMENT WHICH IS THE VERY BASIS OF SOCIETY.''

3. CONCLUDING, THE TAOISEACH SAID HE HAD GONE TO LONDON WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR DIALOGUE ON WAYS AND MEANS TO ACHIEVE PEACE AND STABILITY IN NORTHERN IRELAND. HE BELIEVED THIS OBJECTIVE WAS ACHIEVED.

4. MR HAUGHEY IN A LONG BUT SUBDUED REPLY SAID THAT THE SUMMIT WAS A NON-EVENT: NOTHING OF SUBSTANCE HAD EMERGED. THE TAOISEACH HAD MADE A LONG EXPOSITION BUT THERE WAS NO SIGN THAT HE HAD MADE ANY IMPRESSION ON MRS THATCHER, OR THAT SHE REALISED THE COST TO THE REPUBLIC OF SECURITY MEASURES. DR FITZGERALD WAS TOO READY TO PLAY THE ROLE OF JUNIOR PARTNER AND HIS REMARKS CAME CLOSE TO APOLOGISING FOR IRELAND'S STANCE DURING THE FALKLANDS WAR. ON THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, THERE WAS NO SIGN THAT BRITAIN RECOGNISED IRISH CONCERNS. BRITAIN HAD AN ENORMOUS TRADE SURPLUS WITH THE REPUBLIC BUT THE TAOISEACH HAD FAILED TO MAKE ANY USE OF THIS TO OBTAIN CONCESSIONS. ANGLO-IRISH RELATIONS WOULD NEVER BE NORMAL UNTIL BRITAIN ACCEPTED THE WISHES OF FOUR-FIFTHS OF THE IRISH PEOPLE AND WITHDREW FROM NORTHERN IRELAND.

FCO PLEASE PASS TO SAVING ADDRESSEES

TATHAM

at Bury
at Kennedy
MR
PA