

F.R.

Mr. Hain
I can't think that we have any suitable persons amongst our contacts?
10 AUG 1985
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RECEIVED
SECRETARY'S OFFICE
- 5 AUG 1985
332
Dept. of the Environment

W. Whitlaw
Mr. McCann
Mr. Bissett
Mr. Ford
Mr. Longman
Any suggestions?

HCS/8/5

NI Permanent Secretaries

cc Mr McAllister IDB

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LOBBYING IN THE UNITED STATES

1980B
-9 AUG 85

Gen. R. et al. original for
etc. J. 0908

Some at least of you will already be aware that the Irish National Caucus and other bodies hostile to the interests of Northern Ireland have been attempting to promote action, eg in state legislatures, which could be disadvantageous to us.

It is, of course, a major objective of our Embassy in Washington, of Consular Posts throughout the United States and of British Information Services to take whatever action they can to correct misrepresentations and present the positive aspects of any given situation. But justification from UK Government sources of course provokes Irish-American interests to observe "they would say that, wouldn't they?". It can therefore be of the greatest usefulness to identify on occasions private individuals who would be willing to visit the United States, to exploit existing contacts, to talk off the record or even to give evidence at hearings.

In recent times we have had assistance of this kind from _____ who will no doubt be known to a number of colleagues. As a member of the FEA he has been able to speak with knowledge on the fair employment front, and as a leading figure in the Knights of St Columbanus he has been able to obtain access to leading clerical and lay figures in the American Catholic church.

It is relevant here that, in pursuit of the Northern Ireland Partnership approach to industrial development promotion, there will be continuing small "missions" to the United States from time to time, which will present an opportunity to deploy further private individuals in informal lobbying within the mission programme or on the fringes of it. Here one is thinking of people like _____

My purpose in this minute is to invite you to make suggestions to me, now or at any time in the future, as to people known to you who might be willing to be used in such a way, and would have the necessary authority, experience and judgement. We will clearly not be able to replicate in every case _____ exceptional credentials but there is a useful role to be played here in reinforcing and supplementing the activities of Government agencies in the United States.

K.P. Bloomfield

K P BLOOMFIELD

2 August 1985

MR Bissett

15 AUG 85
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What about Gerry Burns (Fenagh) or Jack Allen (Anting). Both would highlight the structural/industrial/infrastructure progress in a sensible and balanced way.

Responded to Secy on 15/8
[Signature]

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MA
14/8/85