

COVERING CONFIDENTIAL



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(1) ~~General~~ US State Dept.
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TO: MR SMARTT

FROM: P. McALISTER

VISIT OF MR LEBOWITZ, U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT - MONDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

You asked for some information on Mr Lebowitz whom you will brief on 17 September at Stormont House from 3.30 to 4.15, accompanied by Mr Taggart and myself. Mr Henderson tells me that Mr Lebowitz took over some ten days ago from Ken Longmeyer as Country Officer for Iceland and Ireland at the US State Department. His boss will therefore be Director Eileen Heaphy, Director of Northern European Affairs (an Assistant Secretary-equivalent post) who was promoted into place in June this year and was briefed at that time by Mr Minnis and NIO colleagues. I attach some material which was prepared for that occasion, including* a US policy statement on Northern Ireland and line to take, which is still appropriate.

We have no personal information on Mr Lebowitz other than that he appears to have no Irish American connection and knows little or nothing as yet about the Irish scene. The Embassy feels that it is very important that he is briefed well since his position as the front line officer gives him an authority which carries weight when policy is being formulated higher up the line. For example, his predecessor is understood to have been the author of *, the helpful speech made by Mr Johnson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, at the Wilson Centre Conference on Anglo-Irish Relations in Northern Ireland which took place in May. Mr Lebowitz met Mr James Grew, Chairman of the Police Complaints Commission last week, (and has also met Sherard Cowper-Coles).

Pawia K. McAlister

Equality II

11 September 1990

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cc Mr Taggart - with *

Miss Thompson o/r - without attachments



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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