

CONFIDENTIAL

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FROM: N P PERRY
SIL DIVISION
24 FEBRUARY 1992

UNDER/ 963/2
SEC
26 FEB 1992
CENT SEC

MR M^c Coker

You will want to
ensure P. feel
free to respond as at

- cc Mr Bell
- Mr Alston
- Mr Wilson
- Mr Hamilton
- Mr Wood (L+B)
- Mr Cooke*
- Mr Leach
- Mr D A Hill
- Mr D J R Hill
- Mr Maxwell
- Mr Coleman*
- (* without attachment)

MA 26/2
398/2
SEC
26 FEB 1992
C.C.R.U.

Mr Maccabe

MA 26/2

"BEYOND HATE": A PLANNED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, LONDONDERRY,
7-9 SEPTEMBER 1992

I attach a note from Ian Paddington of the FCO's Information Department, who on a recent visit to Derry was advised by Paddy Doherty that he (Doherty) was in the process of arranging an international conference, to take place this September, on 'developing multi-cultural societies'. Details are in the attached paper. Mr Doherty has invited a number of major international figures (including Jacques Delors, who has agreed to attend, Jimmy Carter and Daniel Ortega), and has also asked, somewhat opaquely, for 'a response from London'.

2. The conference appears to be a respectable academic occasion. The problem is Mr Doherty's suggestion that the Republican movement will also be represented (and indeed that PIRA might call a - presumably local - ceasefire for the duration of the conference). This would seem to preclude Government participation, even had we been inclined to attend in the first place. However, we need to give some thought to how we might

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PRN 311/1

Mr Harris
respond to Mr Doherty, and also to how HMG's views could be represented at the conference in our absence. (We may also need, once we have a feel for the nature and extent of Republican involvement, to consider whether some of the VIPs ought to be advised not to attend.) We should in addition warn Ministers that the conference is to take place. The purpose of this note is to ask whether you have any more details about it than we do, and whether you (or copy addressees) have any views on how we should respond to Mr Doherty.

NAD
LAD

N
N P PERRY
SIL DIVISION

24 FEBRUARY 1992

"BEYOND HATE": A PLANNED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, LONDONDERRY, SEPTEMBER 1992

visit to Londonderry, 13 to 14 February, arranged by Mrs Orr, NI Information Service, we met Mr Paddy Doherty, Chief Executive of the Inner City Trust, at dinner and the following day we visited the Trust's headquarters at 14 Magazine Street, Londonderry.

2. At the dinner hosted by Mr Joe Cowan, Londonderry Development Office, Mr Doherty, who makes no secret of his republican sympathies, told us about an international conference he was planning in Londonderry in September. The theme would be "Beyond Hate" and he spoke warmly of the inspirational work done by Elie Wiesel, the 1986 Nobel Peace Laureate, in organising international fora to study the problem of hatred in multi-cultural societies. Mr Doherty also outlined why Derry because of its history and geography would be an ideal place for such a conference. Jacques Delors had agreed to attend. Jimmy Carter was considering and Doherty asked us how he should go about extending an invitation to Sr Daniel Ortega, former President of Nicaragua.

3. During the subsequent conversation Mr Doherty strongly hinted that he would expect extreme republicans to be represented. He added that PIRA had promised a ceasefire during the conference.

4. We visited the Inner City Trust the following day (and were considerably impressed by its work in urban regeneration) and Mr Doherty handed us the attached folder which sets out in some detail the background to the conference and what it hoped to achieve. He specifically asked for a "response from London".

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ADNAEP/37

/5.

Mr Harris
 Mr Nash
 Mr Cole
 Mr Pullen
 Mr Farr, RID
 Mr Fraser, RID
 Mr Cooke, SIL
 Mr Rickard, SIL
 Mr Perry, SIL, NIO
 Mr D Coleman, SIL
 Mr Walsh, SIL
 Mrs McNally, SIL
 Mr Percival, NIO Press Office
 Mrs Orr, NIIS, BELFAST
 NAD
 LAD

19 February 1992

"BEYOND HATE": A PLANNED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, LONDONDERRY,
 7 TO 9 SEPTEMBER 1992

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/5.

ADMAEF/37

Reference

5. Given the international aspect of the conference and a possible linkage with the Provisionals, we propose to raise this topic at the next meeting of the Monthly Information Liaison Committee (MILC) on 27 February at 11.00am in Conference Room G/63, OAB.

I Paddington
Information Department

19 February 1992

Beyond Race:
Developing Multi-cultural Societies

An
International Conference

September 7-9, 1992

Derry, Northern Ireland

Centre for Creative Communications
21 Bishop Street
Derry, Northern Ireland BT48 6PX

Telephone 011-44-504-370 181
Fax 011-44-504-360 921

A few years ago, Elie Wiesel, the 1986 Nobel Peace Laureate, through a Foundation which bears his name and is energized by his spirit, initiated a project entitled, The Anatomy of Hate. During 1989 and 1990, three international conferences were held in the United States, Israel, and Norway focusing on various aspects of hatred, that "cancer at the root of human relationships -- among individuals and entire nations."

Many people, either directly, as participants, or vicariously, through the international media, were affected by these meetings. Some have been inspired to extend the efforts of Elie Wiesel by organizing complementary conferences. Beyond Hate: Developing Multi-cultural Societies is one such project.

Beyond Hate:
Developing Multi-cultural Societies

An
International Conference

September 7-9, 1992

Derry, Northern Ireland

There is no more volatile formula for violence than ethnic and religious hatreds combined. In an era when there is more economic growth than resources to implement it, and far more ethnic conflicts worldwide than traditions of pluralism, the creation of sustainable harmonious multi-cultural societies based on mutual respect and understanding is a global imperative.

To meet this challenge requires the development of new attitudes, skills, and institutions in society. We must develop multi-cultural societies where fanaticism has no place, where diversity can be accommodated, where culture is a source of creative inspiration and development, not a source of belligerence, conflict, or militant nationalism. We need to work toward a world where aggressively narrow nationalism, ethnic and religious intolerance, and cultural myopia are replaced by constructive strategies for cooperation and change.

Some people argue that human beings have always hated, that it is impossible to break the cycle of violence that is the terrible consequence of hatred. Yet, there are troubled places around the world where ordinary people have moved "beyond hate". Such situations need to be better known. They reveal that people, even under the most trying circumstances, can assume responsibility for the humane development of their communities. They reveal the possibility of a resolution of conflict, a resolution that's worth working for and is credible.

1992 and Beyond

In 1992, the European Community will have achieved a significant degree of economic integration. This will help to abolish customs barriers and create the "single market". Keeping ethnic tensions from erupting will be a major challenge. Already ancient hostilities from disrupting will be a major challenge. the borders of Western Europe. Only the acceptance, even celebration of "differences", and a resolute striving toward larger goals will succeed in redirecting people's energies toward achieving mutually beneficial outcomes that will impact on the future.

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A few years ago, Elie Wiesel, the 1986 Nobel Peace Laureate, through a Foundation which bears his name and is energized by his spirit, initiated a project entitled, *The Anatomy of Hate*. During 1989 and 1990, three international conferences were held in the United States, Israel, and Norway focusing on various aspects of hatred, that "cancer at the root of human relationships -- among individuals and entire nations."

Many people, either directly, as participants, or vicariously, through the international media, were affected by these meetings. Some have been inspired to extend the efforts of Elie Wiesel by organizing complementary conferences. *Beyond Hate: Developing Multi-cultural Societies* is one such project.

Issues and Challenges

There is no more volatile formula for violence than ethnic and religious hatreds combined with uneven economic growth. In an era when there is far more economic advice than resources to implement it, and far more ethnic conflicts worldwide than traditions of pluralism to contain or dispel them, the creation of sustainable harmonious multi-cultural societies based on mutual respect and understanding is an urgent global imperative.

To meet this challenge requires the development of new attitudes, skills, and institutions in society. We must develop multi-cultural societies where fanaticism has no place, where diversity can be accommodated, where culture is a source of creative inspiration and development, not a source of belligerence, conflict, or militant nationalism. We need to work toward a world where aggressively narrow nationalism, ethnic and religious intolerance, and cultural myopia are replaced by constructive strategies for cooperation and change.

Some people argue that human beings have always hated, that it is impossible to break the cycle of violence that is the terrible consequence of hatred. Yet, there are troubled places around the world where ordinary people have moved "beyond hate". Such situations need to be better known. They reveal that people, even under the most trying circumstances, can assume responsibility for the humane development of their communities. They reveal the possibility of a resolution of conflict, a resolution that's worth working for and is credible.

1992 and Beyond

In 1992, the European Community will move toward a significant degree of economic and political unity as its members abolish customs barriers and create the "Single Market". But ethnic tensions threaten the new peace in Eastern Europe. Keeping ancient hostilities from erupting will not be easy. Already economic and political fault-lines are developing around the borders of Western Europe. Only the acceptance, even celebration of "differences", and a resolute striving toward larger goals will succeed in redirecting people's energies toward achieving mutually beneficial outcomes that will impact on the future.

Because of the importance of these issues for international peace, and because of the unique experience of Derry, Northern Ireland in tackling such problems, the Centre for Creative Communications will organize and host a September 7-9, 1992 international conference, **Beyond Hate: Developing Multi-cultural Societies**.

Why Ireland?

Ireland is a place of "literary giants" and of "ordinary wordsmiths". It is a wonder how this little island has carved out a place for itself in literature and the arts that is out of all proportion to the size of its population. Ireland is a place of creative and intellectual achievements, an island and a people who have much to share with a larger world. Not only is its literary heritage rich and deep, but so too is its spiritual life and traditions.

Why Derry?

Derry is the ideal venue for the conference, **Beyond Hate: Developing Multi-cultural Societies**. Straddling the border between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, between nationalism and unionism, its people know first-hand the violence of "the troubles". Nowhere will you find people more aware of their heritage, whether recent or distant. Nowhere will you find people more conscious of the triumphs and sufferings of their ancestors. Derry is a focus of the Northern Ireland reality, of the possibility as well as of the conflict.

Conferences usually are held in neutral, academic settings, but **Beyond Hate: Developing Multi-cultural Societies** will be different. It will be held in a city with two names -- some call it "Derry", others "Londonderry", emblematic of how two people with shared roots, Catholics and Protestants, have dealt with their history. It is a place where people are continuing to experience ancient antagonisms, but where they also are struggling to find ways to accommodate each other's differences.

Purpose

The Derry conference will complement the three previous meetings initiated by The Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity. Its purpose is two-fold: (1) to identify concrete ways people in divided societies can work together, and have worked together, to provide a human and economic base for coping effectively with political differences; and (2) to stimulate interest in organising a Centre in Derry devoted to Conflict Resolution.

Goals

1. To explore new ways of looking at age-old problems;
2. To explore the economic, social, religious, and political conditions that help to peacefully reform societies in a democratic direction;

3. To contribute to the international commitment and understanding of the attitudes, skills, and tolerance needed to create multi-cultural societies;
4. To enable the European Community to celebrate "differences";
5. To establish Derry as a centre of learning with a network of relationships throughout the globe;
6. To publish a conference report in book form and to distribute it as widely as possible; and
7. To stimulate multi-media reports/coverage in an effort to widely disseminate the outcome(s) of the conference.

Outcomes

The outcome(s) of the conference will be several: collective advice and a list of suggestions to individuals, organisations, businesses, groups, and governments about projects, approaches, programs, and activities on which people can work side by side, despite differences, to develop dynamic, stable multi-cultural societies. In addition, a Centre will be established in Derry whose aim will be to help people to develop the skills needed in the work of conflict resolution in the many troubled places around the world.

Participants

The working sessions of the three-day conference will involve 40 - 50 participants from a number of societies in which debate is taking place as to future status or issues of independence. These could include, South Africa, the Middle East, Yugoslavia, Sri Lanka, Baltics-USSR, Cyprus, and Northern Ireland itself. Participants will be knowledgeable people who have had experience with cooperative projects of various kinds. In addition, leaders in education, business, community development, and/or the arts will be invited to participate.

Working sessions will be complemented by plenary sessions involving recognized humanitarians, and leaders in human rights, government, and/or education who will give presentations intended to raise issues and stimulate discussion during working sessions.

Process

The conference process will be designed to maximize the involvement of all participants. There will be presentations given during the three-day conference. However, most of the time will be devoted to working sessions, run by trained facilitators, in which participants will grapple with such issues as:

1. **THE PROBLEM(S)** --Identify the symptoms: What are the problems with which the participants are concerned:

Feeling dominated, oppressed, discriminated against, economically depressed, ignored, isolated, ineffective, unemployed? Are different societies suffering from similar problems?

2. **DIAGNOSES --** What are possible causes? To what extent are the identified symptoms caused by such things as racism, oppressive legislation, policing methods; lack of public education, professional training, financial resources; ignorance, separate educational systems, etc.?
3. **POSSIBLE APPROACHES --** What are strategies that people have tried? Every participant will be asked to identify things they have been engaged in: What has worked? What has not? What might be replicated elsewhere? What would it take to do so?
4. **SPECIFIC ACTION IDEAS --** Who might do what tomorrow morning? Participants will be specific as to particular topics and activities that they might suggest be considered by others.
5. **FOLLOW-UP:** The final session will be devoted to what participants at the conference might do to help each other implement ideas.

Although the conference is limited to invited participants, there also will be invited observers, and some plenary sessions will be open to the public. In this way, the conference will help to create a broad-based discussion among a larger audience in Derry, in Northern Ireland, and in the world.

VIDEO CONFERENCE: The conference organizers anticipate an excellent response to the invitation to participate, on-site, in the Derry Conference, but they realize that some people, given prior commitments, will be unable to attend. Therefore, they intend to enrich the on-site participation through video conferencing. By utilizing the latest in communications technology, we shall be able to cross boundaries and bring together people from around the world whose insights and comments will complement the on-site conference discussions.

Finally, the conference also will incorporate an artistic component, such as a concert and/or an art exhibit appropriate to the conference theme.

Education

An educational dimension is fundamental to the overall project. In order to reach the widest possible audience, the conference organizers will involve the media (e.g., newspapers, television, radio). They also will work collaboratively with educational and media specialists to develop:

1. Media coverage of the conference;
2. A series of television and/or radio programs, devoted to topics discussed at the conference;
3. Community involvement, including students and teachers, through the use of a variety of techniques, including tele-conferencing, curriculum specialists' workshop, and focused projects; and
4. Educational Study Guides for secondary and post-secondary students for use in schools in Northern Ireland.

November 1991

contribution to community
research material anticipated
therefore be willing to
for the conference.

I would however need first
I should be grateful
in my office on this.

Community Relations Council will be in
that Derry City Council is also
their community

T. McNeill
1991/11/19