

PS TO THE PM.
NO10 DOWNING STREET.

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PP WASHINGTON

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TO PRIORITY WASHINGTON

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1236 OF 19 AUGUST

AND TO PRIORITY BIS NEW YORK

NORTHERN IRELAND: INFORMATION EFFORT (VISITS)

1. WE HAVE BEEN GIVING FURTHER THOUGHT TO ARRANGING ALL-PARTY VISITS OF MPS SEMI COLON SENDING MODERATES FROM NORTHERN IRELAND SEMI COLON AND TRYING TO ENSURE THAT WILLING BUSINESSMENT VISITING THE UNITED STATES ARE APPROPRIATELY BRIEFED. THESE SUGGESTIONS HAVE BEEN ENDORSED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE LORD PRIVY SEAL.
2. GRATEFUL FOR EARLY ADVICE ON THE EARLIEST USEFUL DATE FOR YOU TO RECEIVE AN ALL-PARTY GROUP OF MPS, SIMILAR TO THE MATES/ CONCANNON/ROSS GROUP IN JANUARY. HOW LONG SHOULD SUCH A GROUP STAY IN THE UNITED STATES AND HOW WOULD THEY BEST USE THEIR TIME?
3. DR BRIAN MAWHINNEY MP, WHO CAME TO THE UNITED STATES LAST DECEMBER, IS VISITING THE UNITED STATES FROM 19 SEPTEMBER ONWARDS AND IS WILLING TO HELP. HE IS AT YOUR DISPOSAL FROM 29 SEPTEMBER FOR ABOUT ONE WEEK. AS YOU KNOW HE IS EFFECTIVE AND COMES FROM NORTHERN IRELAND. HE WILL BE STAYING PRIVATELY IN CHICAGO FROM 29 SEPTEMBER AND WOULD LIKE TO SPEND A FEW DAYS IN WASHINGTON BEFORE THE FOLLOWING WEEKEND. HE IS PREPARED TO GO TO BOSTON. IF DR MAWHINNEY DOES HELP US, HOWEVER, HE HAS ASKED HMG TO PAY HIS AIR FARE FROM CHICAGO TO WASHINGTON, FULL SUBSISTENCE IN WASHINGTON AND REDUCED SUBSISTENCE IN CHICAGO. THIS FINANCIAL ANGLE RAISES DIFFICULTIES UNLESS WE LINK MAWHINNEY IN SOME WAY WITH AN ALL-PARTY VISIT AT THAT TIME. ALTERNATIVELY, MAWHINNEY

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COULD BE REGARDED AS A DETACHED ELEMENT OF AN ALL-PARTY VISIT AT ABOUT THAT TIME, BUT THAT ARRANGEMENT WOULD DEPRIVE US OF THE IMPACT OF AN ALL-PARTY GROUP APPEARING TOGETHER EG AT MEETINGS WITH CONGRESSMEN. IF THERE IS NOT TO BE AN ALL-PARTY VISIT AT THAT TIME, DO YOU IN FACT WANT MAWHINNEY IN WASHINGTON AND BOSTON? NIO MUST GO BACK TO MAWHINNEY BEFORE THE END OF AUGUST.

4. MCCUSKER (UNIONIST), HENDRON (SDLP) AND NAPIER (ALLIANCE) WILL BE IN THE UNITED STATES FROM 30 AUGUST - 26 SEPTEMBER UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE US INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY, A GOVERNMENT BODY. THEY WILL BE TRAVELLING WIDELY (MOSTLY TOGETHER) AND MEETING LEADING IRISH AMERICAN POLITICIANS AS WELL AS MAKING A NUMBER OF NON-POLITICAL VISITS TO PURSUE THEIR OWN POLITICAL INTERESTS EG HEALTH AND ENERGY. WE ARE SENDING SEPARATELY DETAILS OF THEIR ITINERARY. THIS SHOULD BE A USEFUL GROUP WITH WHICH YOU MAY WISH TO MAKE CONTACT. PERHAPS A LUNCH WITH JOURNALISTS WOULD BE SENSIBLE. WE HAVE IDENTIFIED OTHER POSSIBLE MODERATE VOICES FROM NORTHERN IRELAND AS FOLLOWS -

JIM MOLYNEAUX MP (UNIONIST PARTY LEADER)

GERRY FITT MP (INDEPENDENT SOCIALISTS)

AMONG OTHER POLITICIANS -

JOHN CARSON (EX LORD MAYOR OF BELFAST)

SEAMUS CLOSE (ALLIANCE PARTY CANDIDATE FERMANAGH/SOUTH TYRONE)

DAVID TRIMBLE (UNIONIST BELFAST CITY COUNCIL)

JOHN CUSHNAHAN (SECRETARY ALLIANCE PARTY AND BELFAST CITY COUNCILLOR)

AND AMONG NON-POLITICIANS -

TERRY CARLING (NI OFFICE, NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL OF THE IRISH COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS)

REV JOHN MORROW (CORRYMEELA COMMUNITY)

JOHN SIMPSON (ECONOMICS LECTURER, QUEENS UNIVERSITY OF BELFAST)

PROFESSOR NORMAN SIMPSON (NEW UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER)

REV SIDNEY CALLAGHAN (METHODIST MINISTER)

HARPER BROWN (MANAGER OF BELFAST EUROPA HOTEL)

BERT MASON (THIRD INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT, LIONS INTER-

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NATIONAL - A SERVICE ORGANISATION WHICH WE UNDERSTAND IS PRESTIGIOUS IN THE UNITED STATES. HE IS ALSO MANAGING DIRECTOR OF A WEST BELFAST FACTORY).

5. THEY HAVE NOT YET BEEN APPROACHED TO ESTABLISH WHETHER THEY ARE WILLING TO COME: IF SOME OF THEM NEEDED FINANCIAL HELP, WE WOULD CONSIDER PROVIDING IT. GRATEFUL FOR ADVICE HOW QUICKLY AND AT WHAT RATE YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE SUCH VISITORS, AND WHAT KIND OF PROGRAMME YOU WOULD ENVISAGE FOR THEM. INITIALLY AT LEAST, WE WOULD SEE ADVANTAGE IN A MIXED GROUP OF PERHAPS TWO OR THREE PEOPLE FROM THIS LIST.

6. NIO ARE CONSIDERING HOW BEST TO PROVIDE BRIEFING IN NORTHERN IRELAND FOR BUSINESSMEN VISITING THE US. WE WILL LET YOU KNOW WHAT THEY CONCLUDE.

7. NIO HAVE OFFERED SMALL BRIEFING FOLDERS, CONTAINING FOR EXAMPLE POINTS AT ISSUE AND RECENT KEY STATEMENTS ON THE HUNGER STRIKES, TO MINISTERS AND CONSERVATIVE BACKBENCHERS WHO ARE IN THE UNITED STATES, MAINLY PRIVATELY, THIS AUTUMN. WE SHALL KEEP YOU POSTED ABOUT THESE VISITS.

CARRINGTON

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