

IMMEDIATE

PS
PS/...
PS/PUS
MR BULLARD
MR FERGUSSON
HD/RIID
HD/PUSD (2)
HD/IPD
HD/NEWS DEPT

N IRELAND OFFICE - PS TO SEC OF STATE
RM 66 A/2 GGS

N IRELAND OFFICE [4 copies]

SIR K STOWE
MR MORIATY
MR MARSHALL
MR BUXTON

CABINET OFFICE - SIR R ARMSTRONG
DIO

NO 10 DOWNING STREET

Handwritten: NO (NAED) ...
.....

~~RESIDENT CLERK~~

DUBFO 032/15

OO F C O (DESKBY 151100Z)

OO WASHINGTON (DESKBY 151100Z)

OO N I O (B)

RR TFCRELAY

GRS 130

RESTRICTED

FM DUBLIN 151100Z JULY 1981

TO IMMEDIATE F C O (DESKBY 151100Z)

TELEGRAM NUMBER 242 OF 15 JULY

AND TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON (DESKBY 151100Z)

INFO IMMEDIATE N I O (B)

HUNGER STRIKE : IRISH INITIATIVE IN U S A

IMMEDIATE

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INFO IMMEDIATE N I O (5)

HUNGER STRIKE : IRISH INITIATIVE IN U S A

THIS MORNING THE DUBLIN PAPERS AND R T E RADIO BULLETINS MAKE MUCH OF THE FACT THAT YESTERDAY THE IRISH AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON, ACTING ON INSTRUCTION, APPEALED TO PRESIDENT REAGAN TO INTERVENE IN THE HUNGER STRIKE.

2. GOVERNMENT SPOKESMEN HERE ARE QUOTED AS SAYING THAT DONLOW EXPRESSED THE IRISH GOVERNMENT'S "SENSE OF URGENCY AND SENSE OF ALARM" AND ASKED FOR SUPPORT FOR DIRECT CONTACTS BETWEEN THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE HUNGER STRIKERS.

3. THE IRISH PRESS, WHICH HAS BEEN URGING THE PLAYING OF THE AMERICAN CARD FOR SOME DAYS, PRINTS AN EDITORIAL WHICH WARMLY APPLAUDS THIS MOVE AND SUGGESTS THAT THERE SHOULD NOW ALSO BE ACTION WITHIN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.

X { 4. MR O'ROURKE HAS SINCE TELEPHONED US TO TELL ME PRIVATELY THAT THE IRISH GOVERNMENT WERE MOST UPSET AT THEIR APPROACH TO PRESIDENT REAGAN BEING MADE PUBLIC. THE PRESS BRIEFING IN DUBLIN HAD BEEN MISMANAGED AND HE DID NOT KNOW WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE.

FIGG

X *NO much consolation!*

IMMEDIATE

NNNN

SENT AT / RECD AT 15/1040Z DH/DW