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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTONINFORMATION

March 17, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RICHARD V. ALLEN *Allen*

SUBJECT: Additional Information On Your Tuesday
Lunch at the Irish Embassy

Irish Ambassador Sean Donlon has given me the essentials of the scenario he and his Embassy colleagues plan to follow for your Tuesday, March 17 lunch; they look like this:

- The lunch will precede the ceremonies;
- Ambassador Donlon will present the traditional shamrock to you near the conclusion of the dessert course;
- He will present at the same time the Reagan family tree done on vellum;
- Following these presentations, there will be the exchange of toasts.

During the presentations and the toasts a pool of 16 reporters (11 American and 5 Irish) will be admitted to the dining room for appropriate coverage.

To give you some idea of the luncheon participants, I attach a copy of the guest list as the Irish have communicated it to us (Tab A).

NB. I have received late word that Irish Prime Minister Charles Haughey may try placing a call to you at some point in the course of the luncheon, simply to wish you a Happy St. Paddy's Day and to express the hope that you will soon be able to visit his country.

cc: Ed Meese
James Baker
Deputy Secretary of State Clark

Irish Ambassador's Luncheon
March 17, 1981

Guest List

Ambassador Sean Donlon (host)
Mrs. Donlon (hostess)

Administration

The President
Secretary Haig
Treasury Secretary Regan
Mr. Richard Allen
Mr. Charles Tyson
Ambassador Lawrence Eagleburger
Presidential party of 7 other persons

US Congress

Speaker O'Neill
Senator Edward Kennedy
Senator Daniel P. Moynihan (not yet confirmed)
Rep. Margaret Heckler (R. Mass.)
Rep. Charles Dougherty (R. Penn.)

Irish Government

Finance Minister Gene Fitzgerald
Mrs. Fitzgerald

Diplomatic Corps

The Ambassador of the Netherlands,
H.E. Dr. Jan Hendrik Lubbers
(The Dutch currently hold the Presidency of the EC Council)

Clergy

Archbishop James Hickey
Father Morris Fox

Journalists

Miss Mary McGrory - "Washington Star"
Mr. Ben Bradlee - "Washington Post"
Mr. Michael O'Neill - "New York Daily News"
Mr. John Grimes - "The Irish World" (alternate)

Private Sector

Mr. A.W.B. Vincent - President of the American-Irish
Foundation
Mr. William Battle - President of the Irish-American
Chamber of Commerce
Dr. Eoin McKiernan - President of the Irish-American
Cultural Institute
Mr. William McManus - Treasurer of the Republican National
Committee
Mr. Edward McDermott - Partner in the Law Firm of Hagan
and Hartson
Mr. John P. Cosgrove
Mr. Don Carroll - Former Governor of the Bank of Ireland
Judge James Comerford (not yet confirmed)

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

March 16, 1981

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD V. ALLEN
FROM: CHARLES P. TYSON *CPT*
SUBJECT: Irish Prime Minister Haughey's Telephone
Call to the President Prior to Tomorrow's
Luncheon

Important
Copies to Mr. Laker,
Deputy Clerk
I will take all to
a.m. briefing
Send via
System, for

Please be aware that the Irish Prime Minister will be calling the President shortly after his arrival at the luncheon tomorrow, simply to convey his greetings on St. Patrick's Day and to express his hope that the President will soon be able to visit Ireland.

You may want to ensure that you are present when the call comes in.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

March 16, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD V. ALLEN

THROUGH: CHARLES P. TYSON *CM*FROM: JAMES M. RENTSCHLER *JS*SUBJECT: Additional Information on Tomorrow's
Lunch with the Irish

In addition to the package we earlier sent you in preparation for the President's lunch at the Irish Embassy tomorrow, I provide some follow-up info from State (Tab II). I have boiled the essentials into a short memo (Tab I) which you may want to share with the President (it could be appended as an additional tab if the earlier package has not yet gone forward).

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the memo to the President at Tab I.

Approve ✓ 3/17/81

As Amended _____

cc: Allen Lenz
Phyllis Kaminsky

copy
Pls put ~~orig.~~ in system to Pres red tag
all other copies distr., incl.
orig. to Pres.

c. Dorman



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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

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March 14, 1981 100 II

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. RICHARD V. ALLEN
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Scenario and Guest List for the President's
Luncheon with Irish Ambassador Sean Donlon,
Tuesday, March 17, 1981

The Irish Embassy has provided us additional details concerning the scenario for Ambassador Sean Donlon's St. Patrick's Day luncheon in honor of the President. Their current plans are for the Ambassador to present the ceremonial shamrock to the President, along with the Reagan Irish family tree done on vellum, just prior to the exchange of toasts. At that time, a pool of 16 reporters (11 American, 5 Irish) would be admitted to the dining room for press coverage. We understand a definitive luncheon scenario is being coordinated between the Embassy and Mr. Tyson at the White House.

The Embassy has also provided us the luncheon guest list (attached).

L. Paul Bremer, III
Executive Secretary

Attachment:

Guest List.

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RECEIVED 16 MAR 81 03

TO ALLEN

FROM BREMER

DOCDATE 14 MAR 81

URGENT

KEYWORDS: IRELAND

GUEST LIST

DONLON, SEAN

SUBJECT: SCENARIO & GUEST LIST FOR PRES LUNCHEON W/ IRISH AMB MAR 17

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR ALLEN

DUE: 16 Mar STATUS S FILES

FOR ACTION

FOR COMMENT

FOR INFO

RENTSCHLER

TYSON

COMMENTS

REF# 8108103

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ACTION OFFICER (S)	ASSIGNED	ACTION REQUIRED	DUE	COPIES TO
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RA	X 3/16	Add on for info		RE
	3/17	RVA ref memo to Pres.		ENT, NP, Clark
C	3/18	Noted by Pres		RE CT, 12, 1000
DISPATCH 3/17 memo & cc's dispatched by RVA's office W/ATTCH FILE RA (C) don				

DATE 24/07/81

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 01

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MESSAGE ANNOTATIONS:

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MESSAGE:

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DE RUEHOB #1424/01 2911549

O 011547Z APR 81 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

NLRR 148-15-25-1-3
BY KOB NARA DATE 7/7/15

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0500

SECRET SECTION 01 OF 02 DUBLIN 01424

NODIS

E.O. 12065: ROS-1 4/1/01 (SHANNON, WILLIAM V.) OR-M

TAGS: MARR, UNIFIL, UNSC, XF, FI

SUBJECT: KEY IRISH FIGURES PRIVATELY SCORE ISRAEL

- AND U.S. SUPPORT OF THE COUNTRY

REF: STATE 80604

1. ~~ENTIRE~~ TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. IN A CONVERSATION WITH THE DCM, THE COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE IRISH DEFENSE FORCES, CARL O'SULLIVAN WHO HAD JUST RETURNED FROM A MID-EAST VISIT, ROUNDLY AND BRUTALLY CONDEMNED ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER BEGIN, ISRAEL'S POLICY IN GENERAL AND ITS SUPPORT OF HADDOAD IN PARTICULAR. O'SULLIVAN ALSO SAID THAT NO MID-EAST SETTLEMENT IS POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE SOVIETS AND THAT THE PLO SHOULD HAVE BEEN BROUGHT IN LONG AGO. HE SCORED U.S. MID-EAST POLICY AS A PURE PRODUCT OF THE JEWISH LOBBY IN THE U.S. O'SULLIVAN'S HARSH LANGUAGE WAS A SURPRISE, BUT WE BELIEVE HIS VIEWS ARE BASICALLY SHARED BY THE IRISH FOREIGN AFFAIRS ESTABLISHMENT. END SUMMARY.

3. AT A DINNER AT THE IRISH DFA MARCH 27, THE COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE IRISH DEFENSE FORCES AND THE POLITICAL DIRECTOR OF THE DFA BOTH SOUGHT OUT THE DCM (WHO WAS

DUBLIN 1424

DTG: 011547Z APR 81 ESN: 006598
TOR: 091/1823Z

DATE 04/07/81

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02

MESSAGE (CONTINUED):

THEN CHARGE) TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS. LT. GEN. CARL O'SULLIVAN WHO HAD RETURNED THAT SAME DAY FROM A TRIP TO THE MID-EAST SAID THE IRISH COULD NO LONGER "TOLERATE" ISRAELI DUPLICITY AND POLICY. HE SAID BLUNTLY THAT THE USG IS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE AND ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE "INDEFENSIBLE" ISRAELI POLICIES. HE ALSO ADDED AN ELEMENT WE HAD NOT HEARD HERE BEFORE ALTHOUGH DORE, WHEN POLITICAL DIRECTOR BEFORE GOING TO NEW YORK, HAD IMPLIED IT: THERE WILL BE NO MID-EAST SETTLEMENT WITHOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF THE SOVIET UNION, SAID O'SULLIVAN, WHICH "WAS WRONGLY ELBOWED OUT" AFTER THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING, O'SULLIVAN ADDED, THAT THE PLO SHOULD HAVE BEEN BROUGHT IN LONG AGO.

4. O'SULLIVAN SAID THAT HE HAD SPOKEN IN ISRAEL WITH BOTH BEGIN AND GENERAL EITAN. THE LATTER WAS TOUGH AND RATIONAL, BUT BASICALLY NON-RESPONSIVE TO IRISH CONCERNS. BEGIN, HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO O'SULLIVAN WAS "POSSESSED." HE TALKED IN TERMS OF THE HOLOCAUST, HOW THE JEWS HAD BEEN DECEASED BY THE WORLD AND HOW THEY COULD NOT IN TURN DESERT THEIR FRIENDS, HADDOAD'S CHRISTIAN FORCES. THE ISRAELIS, SAID O'SULLIVAN, MADE THE USUAL EXCUSES THAT ALTHOUGH THEY PROVIDE HADDOAD WITH ARMS, THEY COULD NOT CONTROL HIS ACTIONS.

5. O'SULLIVAN DESCRIBED BEGIN AS A "SELF-HYPNOTIC MONOLOGIST" WHOSE PRESENT POLICIES WERE ALARMINGLY CONDITIONED BY THE PAST. O'SULLIVAN SAID HE ASKED BEGIN WHETHER GUILT IS CARRIED BY BLOOD. ARE TODAY'S GERMANS GUILTY OF, AND DUE TO PAY FOR, NAZI CRIMES AGAINST THE JEWS? OR THE HORRORS EUROPEAN JEWS SUFFERED EXCUSE ISRAELI BEHAVIOR TODAY? SHOULD THE U.S.--BECAUSE OF ITS INFLUENTIAL DOMESTIC JEWISH ELEMENT--BE HOSTAGE TO ISRAELI EXCESSES?

6. HE CLOSED BY SAYING HOW MUCH UNFIFIL COMMANDER MAJOR GENERAL CALLAGHAN HAD APPRECIATED HIS MEETING AND CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR DEAN.

7. LATER THAT EVENING, DFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR PADRAIG MACKERNAN APPROACHED THE DCM WITH A LAMENT OVER U.S. HANDLING OF THE UNBC CONSIDERATION OF THE HADDOAD SHELLING OF THE NIGERTIAN UNFIFIL POSITION. MACKERNAN SAID THE NIGERIANS REGARD WHAT THEY CONSIDER THE "CAVALIER" TREAT-

DUBLIN 1424

DTG: 011547Z APR 81 SSN: 006598
TOP: 091/18032

*****S E C R E T*****

DATE 04/07/81

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 03

MESSAGE (CONTINUED):

MENT BY THE UNSC OF THE DEATHS OF THEIR TROOPS AS
BORDERING ON RACIST IN CONTRAST TO THE RESPONSE TO THE
KILLING IN SPRING 1980 OF THREE IRISH UNIFIL SOLDIERS.
HE WAS ALSO REMUSED BY THE USG'S WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT
THE FULL TEXT OF SC 425 IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES
WHICH, IN FACT, DOES WHAT USUN SAID IT WANTED TO AVOID:
SINGLING OUT ISRAEL.

8. DRAWING ON TELS FROM DEPARTMENT, USUN, TEL AVIV AND
RETRUT, THE DCM ATTEMPTED WITH BOTH O'SULLIVAN AND
MACKERNAN TO PRESENT THE RATIONALE FOR OUR POLICY AND
STRESSED THE VIGOR OF OUR DEMARCHES TO THE ISRAELI GOVERN-
MENT. HIS ARGUMENT WAS LARGELY WAVED AWAY AND USG POLICY
DISMISSED AS BEING ALMOST COMPLETELY CONDITIONED BY U.S.

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DTG: 011047Z APR 81 PSN: 006598
TOR: 001/1803Z

DATE 04/27/81

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 01

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MESSAGE ANNOTATIONS:

NO MESSAGE ANNOTATIONS

MESSAGE:

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DE RUELOS #1424/02 0911557

O 011547Z APR 81 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6507

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 DUBLIN 01424

NOTES

DOMESTIC JEWISH CONSIDERATIONS.

9. COMMENT. O'SULLIVAN'S BRUTAL LANGUAGE WAS QUITE OUT OF CHARACTER FOR THIS NORMALLY SUAVE AND CIRCUMSPECT IRISH COMMANDER. HE WAS OBVIOUSLY TIRED AFTER HIS LONG FLIGHT THE SAME DAY FROM THE MID-EAST, BUT HE WAS DEADLY, SOBERLY SERIOUS.

10. ALTHOUGH OORR'S VIEWS ON THE MID-EAST ARE ARTICULATED IN A MODULATED, NUANCED WAY, WE BELIEVE HE--AND THE WHOLE IRISH FOREIGN AFFAIRS ESTABLISHMENT--WOULD BE IN BASIC AGREEMENT WITH O'SULLIVAN.

11. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO GIVE COLLATERAL DISTRIBUTION OF THIS MESSAGE TO OTHER INTERESTED ADDRESSEES.
SHANNON

DUBLIN 1424

DTG: 011547Z APR 81 SSN: 006600
TOR: 091/1803Z

DATE 04/17/81

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 01

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WHSR COMMENT:

MESSAGE ANNOTATIONS:

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MESSAGE:

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DE RUFHDB #1621 1041502
O 141501Z APR 81 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

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NLRR 748-15-25-2-2

BY LCB NARA DATE 7/7/15

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0564

S E C R E T DUBLIN 01621

NODIS

E.O. 12065: RDS-1 4/14/01 (SHANNON, WILLIAM V.) DR-M

TAGS: US, FR, LE, XF, EI

SUBJECT: LEBANON

REF: A) STATE 93499; B) STATE 93329 (NOTAL)

1. ~~S~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. ON APRIL 13 DCM CARRIED OUT INSTRUCTIONS IN PARA 4, REF A WITH DFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR PADRAIG MACKERNAN. DCM ALSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR DORR'S EFFORTS AND ASKED MACKERNAN WHAT HIS UNDERSTANDING WAS OF THE STATE OF THE PLAY. MACKERNAN'S REPLY WAS SOMEWHAT CIRCUMSPECT AND BRIEF. (THIS CONVERSATION TOOK PLACE AT AN AFTERNOON EC RECEPTION; DFA PRINCIPALS WERE TIED UP IN REPRESENTATIONAL EVENTS THROUGHOUT APRIL 13.)

3. MACKERNAN SAID DORR WAS WORKING TO GET A CONSENSUS STATEMENT WHICH HE WOULD READ AS UNSC CHAIRMAN. THE IRISH SUPPORT U.S. OBJECTIVES IN THIS EXERCISE BUT DORR THINKS CONSENSUS MAY BE STYMIED BY ATTEMPTS TO INTRODUCE MATTER OF ISRAELI INCURSIONS INTO LEBANON (PARA 7 REF B) AND "PLO QUESTION" INTO SUCH A STATEMENT. SHANNON

DUBLIN 1621

DTG: 141501Z APR 81 PSN: 024521
TOR: 104/1645Z

DATE 06/17/01

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 01

WHO'S ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:

SIT: NAN COL VP JP
 EOB: KEMP, GUMIN, HUBERMAN
 WHSR COMMENT:

MESSAGE ANNOTATIONS:

NO MESSAGE ANNOTATIONS

MESSAGE:

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 DE RUFHUB #2509 1601008
 U 151004Z JUN 01 ZFF-4
 FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

NLRR 748-15-25-3-1
 BY ICDB NARA DATE 7/7/15

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0800

CONFIDENTIAL DUBLIN 02509

NOIDIS
 E.O. 12065: RDS-3 6/10/01 (RUSHING, CHARLES E.) UR-M
 TAGS: UNSC, AF, IS, EI
 SUBJECT: UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON ISRAELI ATTACK
 - ON IRAQI NUCLEAR FACILITY
 REF: STATE 155292

1. ~~ENTIRE~~ TEXT.

2. WE CARRIED OUT INSTRUCTIONS REPTEL DURING JUNE 10
 MEETING WITH IRISH DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FIRST
 SECRETARY TOM RUSSELL (UN SECURITY COUNCIL AFFAIRS).

3. RUSSELL EXPRESSED APPRECIATION IN HAVING USG VIEWS.
 HE SAID THE GOI UNDERSTANDS THAT, RATHER THAN ONE DRAFT
 RESOLUTION BEFORE THE UNSC WHICH CONDEMNS THE ISRAELI
 ATTACK AND CALLS FOR SANCTIONS, THERE MAY BE TWO DRAFTS--
 ONE TO CONDEMN AND THE SECOND DEMANDING SANCTIONS. LIKE
 THE USG, THE GOI WILL NOT DECIDE ITS POSITION PRIOR TO
 SEEING A TEXT ON CONDEMNATION BUT IS LIKELY TO SUPPORT
 SUCH A DRAFT. RUSSELL SAID THE IRISH ARE ALSO RESERVING
 THEIR POSITION ON SANCTIONS BUT ARE INCLINED AGAINST SUCH
 A MOVE. HE EXPLAINED THAT THE GOI USUALLY DISLIKES CALLS
 FOR SANCTIONS UNLESS IT CAN BE PROVEN THAT THEY ARE BOTH
 JUSTIFIED AND LIKELY TO BE EFFECTIVE. HE NOTED THAT
 IRELAND HAS REPEATEDLY DECLARED ITS OPPOSITION TO EX-

DUBLIN 2509

DTG: 151004Z JUN 01 PSN: 040700
 IUR: 160/1/14Z

*** ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ***

At

DATE 06/17/81

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02

MESSAGE (CONTINUED):

PULSION OF ISRAEL FROM ANY UNITED NATIONS FORUM. FINALLY,
RUSSELL FELT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE U.S. AND
IRISH DELEGATIONS TO THE UN TO STAY IN CLOSE TOUCH.

4. DEPARTMENT REPEAT AS APPROPRIATE. RUSHING

DUBLIN 2009

DIS:151004Z JUN 81 PSN: 040/00
TOR: 160/1/14Z

*****~~CONFIDENTIAL~~*****

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SITUATION LISTING

DATE 07/29/81//210

SITUATION: CHECK
SUBJECT CATEGORY: LIST

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

HCE653
STU3017
DD RUEHC
DE RUFHDB #2936/01 1961510
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
Q 151508Z JUL 81 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7058
INFO RUEHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON 3433
ZEN/AMCONSUL BELFAST PUJCH
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NLRR 748-15-25-4-0

BY LCOS NARA DATE 2/7/15

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 DUBLIN 02936
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E.O. 12065: RDS-1 7/15/01 (RUSHING, CHARLES E.) OR-M
TAGS: PEPR, PINS, PINT, EI, UK
SUBJECT: GOI APPEAL TO PRESIDENT REAGAN ON H-BLOCK ISSUE
REF: A) DUBLIN 2925; B) DUBLIN 2899

1. ~~S~~ ENTIRE TEXT.
2. SUMMARY. PRIME MINISTER FITZGERALD'S DIPLOMATIC ADVISOR TOLD US LATE JULY 14 THAT THE H-BLOCK PROBLEM, IF NOT RESOLVED SOON, COULD HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES NOT ONLY FOR IRELAND--NORTH AND SOUTH--BUT FOR ANGLO-IRISH RELATIONS. HE SAID THAT THE GOI HAS DONE EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO CONVINCE THE UKG OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION AND THAT THE IRISH ARE NOW TURNING TO THE PRESIDENT IN THE HOPE HE CAN MAKE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER THATCHER UNDERSTAND THE GRAVITY OF THE PROBLEM. WE BELIEVE THE GOI'S CONCERN IS COMPLETELY SINCERE BUT CLOSELY RELATED TO ITS SHAKY HOLD ON POWER. END SUMMARY.
3. EMBOFF WAS TOLD EVENING OF JULY 14 BY MICHAEL LILLIS (PROTECT ABSOLUTELY), DIPLOMATIC ADVISOR TO PRIME MINISTER FITZGERALD, THAT THE GOI WOULD BE APPEALING THAT DAY FOR PRESIDENT REAGAN'S INTERVENTION WITH BRITISH PRIME MINISTER THATCHER ON THE H-BLOCK PROBLEM (REF-A), STRESSING THAT HE WAS SPEAKING IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE, LILLIS THEN OUTLINED CONSIDERATIONS WHICH PROMPTED GOI MOVE.
4. LILLIS SAID THE GOI IS CONVINCED THE UKG COULD HAVE RESOLVED THE ISSUE WITHOUT SACRIFICE OF PRINCIPLE IF IT HAD RESPONDED WITH A GREATER SENSE OF URGENCY TO THE PROPOSALS OF THE IRISH COMMISSION FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE. THE GOI ALSO BELIEVES THAT EACH SUCCESSIVE HUNGER STRIKE DEATH WILL BENEFIT ONLY THE PROVISIONAL IRA, WILL DEEPEN

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MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

DIVISIONS IN THE NORTH AND INCREASE INSTABILITY IN THE SOUTH. FINALLY, LILLIS SAID THAT THE IMMINENT DEATH OF HUNGER-STRIKER KIERAN DOHERTY, ELECTED TO THE DAIL JUNE 11, WOULD NECESSITATE A BY-ELECTION "IN AN ATMOSPHERE WHICH PROBABLY WOULD BE REMINISCENT OF THE WORST DAYS OF THE IRISH CIVIL WAR" (SEE PARA 2, REF B). HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE FITZGERALD GOVERNMENT IS ACUTELY AWARE OF ITS THIN MARGIN OF PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT AND NATURALLY ANXIOUS TO AVOID ANY BY-ELECTION. HE INSISTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE GOI IS FAR MORE WORRIED ABOUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS SPECIFIC BY-ELECTION THAN THE RESULT.

5. EMBOFF POLITELY QUESTIONED SEVERAL OF LILLIS'S PREMISES. HE NOTED THAT PUBLIC REACTION HERE TO THE MOST RECENT HUNGER STRIKE DEATHS HAS BEEN MINIMAL. HE ASSUMED THAT THE WRIT MOVING A BY-ELECTION IN CAVAN-MONAGHAN (DOHERTY'S CONSTITUENCY) WOULD PROBABLY BE MADE ONLY DURING THE OCTOBER DAIL SESSION, THUS PROVIDING SOME TIME TO RESOLVE THE H-BLOCK PROBLEM. HE OBSERVED THAT H-BLOCK SUPPORTERS HAD SCATHINGLY ATTACKED THE OUTGOING FIANNA FAIL GOVERNMENT FOR ITS HANDLING OF THE ISSUE AND THAT THE COALITION GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN WORKING ENERGETICALLY ON THE SUBJECT SINCE ITS FIRST DAY IN OFFICE. EMBOFF WONDERED THEREFORE WHETHER ANY PARTY POLITICAL ADVANTAGE COULD BE SOUGHT OR EXPECTED BY EITHER FIANNA FAIL OR FINE GAEIL. FINALLY HE OPINED THAT EITHER FIANNA FAIL OR FINE GAEIL (AS OPPOSED TO ANOTHER HUNGER STRIKER) WOULD LIKELY WIN THE BY-ELECTION (AN OPINION SHARED BY OTHER OBSERVERS HERE); A FIANNA FAIL VICTORY WOULD PUT IT WITHIN ONE SEAT OF THE COMBINED FINE GAEIL/ LABOR TOTAL BUT FIANNA FAIL'S OWN LACK OF SUCCESS IN MOVING THE UKG ON THE H-BLOCKS WOULD HARDLY ENABLE IT TO TOPPLE THE COALITION OVER THAT ISSUE.

6. LILLIS CONCEDED THE VALIDITY OF THE ABOVE POINTS AND SAID THE GOVERNMENT IS SEEING THINGS A BIT PESSIMISTICALLY AT THE MOMENT. NONETHELESS, HE REPEATED, THE GOI IS MUCH MORE CONCERNED ABOUT A DETERIORATING ATMOSPHERE THAN IT IS ABOUT LOSING A CAVAN-MONAGHAN BY-ELECTION. HE ASSERTED THAT UKG RIGIDITY ON THE H-BLOCK QUESTION IS FOSTERING A GROWING ANTI-BRITISH FEELING IN THE REPUBLIC EVEN THOUGH OUTWARD MANIFESTATIONS THEREOF ARE NOT AT PRESENT AS DRAMATIC AS DURING THE AFTERMATH OF BOBBY SANDS'S DEATH. HE ADDED THAT PEOPLE ARE "MAKING UP THEIR MINDS NOW" ABOUT THE PROBLEM AND WILL BLAME THE CURRENT GOI FOR LACK OF SUCCESS IN PUSHING FOR A SOLUTION --NOT THE PREVIOUS FIANNA FAIL REGIME FOR PAST LACK OF

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SITUATION LISTING

DATE 07/29/81//210

SITUATION: CHECK
SUBJECT CATEGORY: LIST

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

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PAGE 1 - 355

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 07/29/81//210

SITUATION: CHECK
SUBJECT CATEGORY: LIST

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

HCE655
STU3019
OO RUEHC
DE RUFHDB #2936/02 1961518
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
O 151208Z JUL 81 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7059
INFO RUEHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON 3434
ZEN/AMCONSUL BELFAST PUJCH
BT

SECRET SECTION 02 OF 02 DUBLIN 02936

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SUCCESS. THE TEMPTATION FOR BOTH PARTIES TO FOCUS ON THE H-BLOCK ISSUE DURING A CAVAN-MONAGHAN BY-ELECTION WOULD THUS BE OVERWHELMING WITH RESULTANT BAD-FEELING BETWEEN THEM, BETWEEN BOTH AND THE UKG AND BETWEEN THE IRISH ELECTORATE AND BRITAIN. ANGLO-IRISH RELATIONS COULD BE BADLY DAMAGED IN THE PROCESS.

7. LILLIS CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT THE GOI HAD DONE EVERYTHING IT COULD TO CONVINCE THE UKG OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF THIS SITUATION. THE IRISH WERE NOW TURNING TO THE PRESIDENT IN THE HOPE THAT HE COULD MAKE MRS. THATCHER UNDERSTAND THE GRAVITY OF THE PROBLEM NOT ONLY FOR IRELAND, NORTH AND SOUTH, BUT ALSO FOR ANGLO-IRISH RELATIONS.

8. COMMENT. WE BELIEVE THE GOI'S CONCERN IS ENTIRELY SINCERE BUT THAT IT IS ALSO CLOSELY RELATED TO ITS SHAKY HOLD ON POWER. IT IS DIFFICULT TO FORECAST HOW INTENSE THE PUBLIC MOOD HERE WILL BE SHOULD KIERAN DOHERTY DIE. IT IS EQUALLY DIFFICULT TO KNOW WHETHER FIANNA FAIL WILL SEEK TO MAKE POLITICAL CAPITAL OUT OF A PROBLEM IT COULD NOT ITSELF RESOLVE. EVEN WITHOUT DOING SO, FIANNA FAIL WOULD PROBABLY BE FAVORED TO WIN THE SEAT AND FURTHER REDUCE THE COALITION GOVERNMENT'S TINY WORKING MAJORITY IN THE DAIL. AS OF NOW, HOWEVER, WE WOULD NOT EXPECT THE FITZGERALD REGIME TO FALL (IF IT FALLS) ON THE H-BLOCK ISSUE. NONETHELESS, IF THE COALITION CAN HELP TO MOVE THAT ISSUE TO A QUICK RESOLUTION IT WOULD MAKE A CAVAN-MONAGHAN BY-ELECTION UNNECESSARY--AND WOULD BENEFIT THE GOVERNMENT IN ANY EARLY ELECTION CONTEXT. MORE IMPORTANTLY, OF COURSE, IT WOULD HEAL A FESTERING WOUND AND BENEFIT ANGLO-IRISH RELATIONS. RUSHING
BT

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SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 = 356

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 07/29/81//210

SITUATION: CHECK
SUBJECT CATEGORY: LIST

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

DECLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NLRR 748-15-25-5-9
BY 10013 NARA DATE 7/7/15 (Entire text)
July 15, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. RICHARD V. ALLEN
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Contingency Press Guidance on Irish Prime Minister
FitzGerald's July 14 Letter to the President

Attached for NSC clearance is contingency press guidance
for the Department spokesman's use in replying to questions
concerning Prime Minister FitzGerald's July 14 letter to the
President on Northern Ireland.

John H. Kelly
L. Paul Bremer, III
for Executive Secretary

Attachment:

Contingency Press Guidance.

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CDS 7/15/87

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(Entire text)

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PRESS GUIDANCE (If Asked)

LETTER FROM IRISH PRIME MINISTER FITZGERALD
ON NORTHERN IRELAND

Q: Can you confirm press reports that the President received a letter yesterday from Irish Prime Minister FitzGerald on Northern Ireland?

A: The President did receive such a letter.

Q: Can you comment on the content of the Prime Minister's letter?

A: We do not comment on the substance of what we regard as private diplomatic correspondence. I can say only that the President will be replying to the letter shortly.

Q: What is the US Government's position on the Northern Ireland hunger strike?

A: Throughout the period of the hunger strike, we have made clear our regret at the deaths it has brought about, including of those persons innocently caught up in the violence it has engendered. The recent deaths of Mr. Martin Hurson and Mr. Joseph McDonnell were all the more tragic at a time when it appeared a way might be found to resolve this issue. We sincerely hope that the hunger strike can be brought to a peaceful conclusion and that there can be an end to the violence in Northern Ireland.

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- 2 -

Q: There are six other hunger strikers at the Maze Prison. Does the United States plan to intervene with the British Government to prevent them from dying?

Q: While we do not intend to intervene in the current situation in Northern Ireland, both the President's personal feelings and this country's policy, as outlined in the President's March 17 statement, are well known.

Q: What is that policy?

A: We will continue to urge the parties to come together for a just and peaceful solution, and we will continue to condemn all acts of terrorism and violence. The President has also called on all Americans to question closely any appeal for financial or other aid from groups involved in the Northern Ireland conflict to ensure that contributions do not end up in the hands of those who perpetuate violence, either directly or indirectly.

Q: In his March 17 statement, President Reagan offered the "good offices of the US" to help bring peace to Northern Ireland. Does this mean the US intends to assume a role as mediator in the conflict?

A: No. The statement means that the US is prepared to support in any way possible a just and peaceful solution to the conflict.

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UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL
OF CLASSIFIED ENCLOSURES

RECEIVED 16 JUL 81 13

TO ALLEN

FROM BREMER

DOCDATE 15 JUL 81

KEYWORDS: IRELAND

HUMAN RIGHTS

FITZGERALD, GARRET

MEDIA

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON IRISH FM FITZGERALD JUL 14 LTR TO THE PRES

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO ALLEN TO ALLIN DUE: 18 JUL 81 STATUS S FILES

FOR ACTION

FOR COMMENT

FOR INFO

RENTSCHLER

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COMMENTS

REF# 8121202

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ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED DUE COPIES TO
BLAIR C-OBE - Close out J. Blair 7/20/81

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