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Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: COUNTRY FILE

Withdrawer

KDB

7/7/2015

File Folder

IRELAND (7/27/81-8/17/81)

FOIA

F03-002/5

Box Number

15

SKINNER

BOX Number 13			SKINNER 55			
ID Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages		Restrictions		
168208 MEMO	J. RENTSCHLER/D. BLAIR TO R. ALLEN RE ATTACHED MATERIAL (W/ADDED NOTE)	1	7/21/1981	B1		
168210 CABLE	202313Z JUL 81	10	7/20/1981	B1		
<i>D</i>	9/13/2013 NLR-748-15-26-2-1	į.				
168209 NOTES	RE COMMENTS ON DOC #168208	1	ND	B1		
168213 PROFILE SHEET	NSC/S	1	7/21/1981	B1		
168211 MEMO	BLAIR/RENTSCHLER TO ALLEN RE NORTHERN IRELAND	1	7/23/1981	B1		
168212 MEMO	BLAIR/RENTSCHLER TO ALLEN RE MEMO FROM STATE DEPT.	1	7/24/1981	B1		

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial Information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes ((b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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168208 MEMO

1 7/21/1981

B1

J. RENTSCHLER/D. BLAIR TO R. ALLEN RE ATTACHED MATERIAL (W/ADDED NOTE)

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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ID	Document Type	No of Doc Date	Restric-
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168210 CABLE

10 7/20/1981

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202313Z JUL 81

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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RE COMMENTS ON DOC #168208

168209 NOTES

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IRELAND (7/27/81-8/17/81)

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ID	Document Type	No of	Doc Date	Restric-
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168213 PROFILE SHEET

7/21/1981

B1

NSC/S

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: COUNTRY FILE

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ID	Document Type	No of	Doc Date	Restric-
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168211 MEMO

1 7/23/1981

B1

BLAIR/RENTSCHLER TO ALLEN RE NORTHERN IRELAND

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KEYWORDS	: SAUDI ARAE	BIA	FMS		
SUBJECT:	DISTRIBUTIO	ON OF MEMCONS F	RE SALE OF F-15 P	LANES TO SAUDI	ARABIA
ACTION:	ALLEN SGD N	MEMO TO AGENCIA	ES DUE:	STATUS C	FILES PA
	FOR ACTION		FOR COMMENT		FOR INFO KIMMITT KEMP SCHWEITZER
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CONFIDENTIAL

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

July 17, 1981

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR 748-15-26-4-9

BY COR NARA DATE 1/1/15

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE ALEXANDER M. HAIG, JR.
THE SECRETARY OF STATE

THE HONORABLE CASPAR WEINBERGER THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT:

Memoranda of Conversation

During the critical stages between now and the time votes are taken in Congress on the sale of the AWACS/F-15 Enhancement Package, it is requested that detailed MemCons be maintained of all meetings between representatives of your Departments and representatives of Saudi Arabia. MemCons of meetings in the White House will also be made. It is further requested all MemCons be circulated between the Departments and the White House in order that all concerned may be kept informed.

Richard V. Al/len

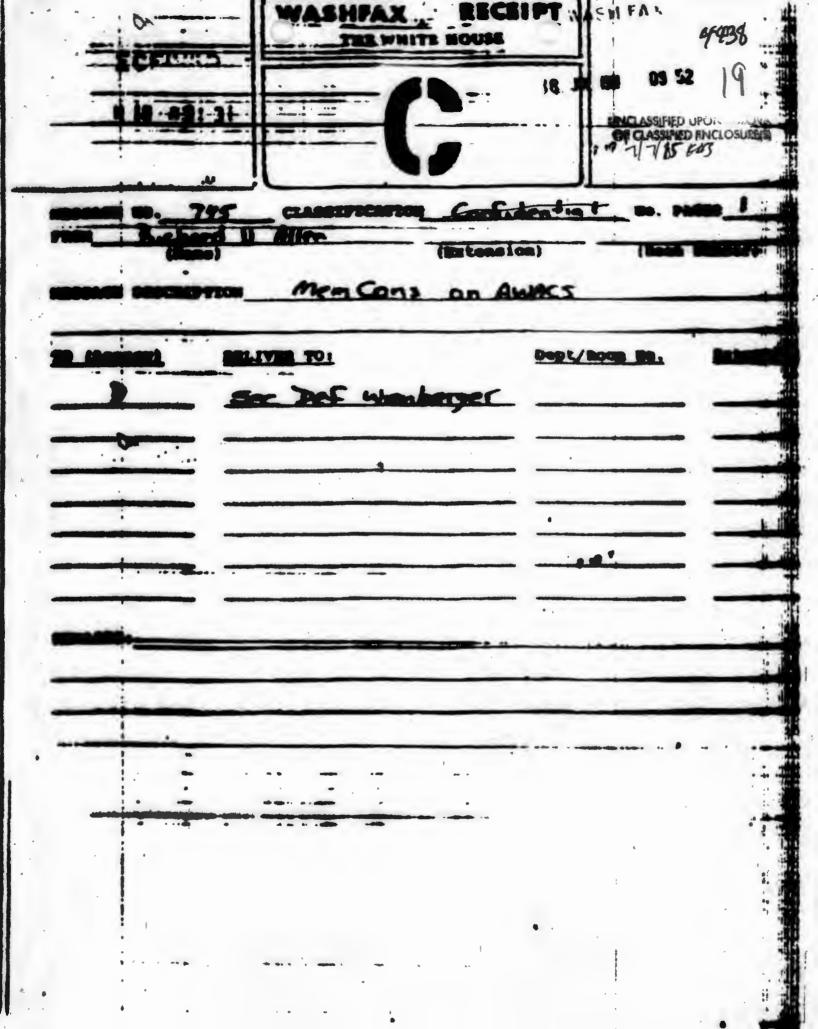
Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

CONFIDENTIAL Review on July 17, 1987

CONFIDENTIAL

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TO ALLEN

FROM BLAIR

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23 JUL 81

KEYWORDS:	IRELAND
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ALLEN

GREAT BRITAIN

SUBJECT:	PRES PO	OLICY RE	HUNGER	STRIKE	IN NOR	THERN I	RELA	ND			
ACTION:	FOR DEC	CISION			DUE:	26 JUL	81	STATUS	Х	FILES	
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COMMENTS

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NLRR 748-15-26-5-8

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 07/29/81//210

SITUATIONS CHECK SUBJECT CATAGORY? LIST

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION?

MESSAGEI

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DE RUFHOB #3113/01 2091557

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FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7124

BT

S E C B E T SECTION O1 OF 02 DUBLIN 03113

NOD15/NOFORN

E.D. 12065; RDS-1 7/28/01 (RUSHING, CHARLES E.) DR-M TAGS: PINT, PEPR, PINS, UK, US, EI

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER FITZGERALD DISCUSSES HEBLOCK

SITUATION REF: A) STATE 1966001 B) DUBLIN 2880: C) DUBLIN 3000

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. WHEN I DELIVERED PRESIDENT REAGAN'S LETTER OF REPLY TO PRIME MINISTER FITZGERALD ON JULY 27, THE

LATTER TACKED FOR AN HOUR ABOUT THE HEBLOCK HUNGER STRIKE. HE IS VERY WORRIED ABOUT THE EFFECT OF A CONTIN-

UING STRIKE AND RESULTING DEATHS ON THE INTERNAL STABILITY OF THE REPUBLIC AND ON ITS RELATIONS WITH THE

HE HAD HOPED TO ENLIST THE PRESIDENT'S QUIET HELP, FOR HE BELIEVES THAT PRESIDENT REAGAN AND PRIME MINISTER

SCHMIDT ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO MIGHT HAVE

INFLUENCE ON THIS ISSUE WITH MRS, THATCHER. FITZGERALD LAID THE BLAME FOR THE HUNGER-STRIKE IMPASSE SQUARELY

AT HER FEET AND SAID THAT SHE HAS REJECTED THE ADVICE

EVEN OF HER OWN CABINET, BUT HE DIDNIT SEEM TO KNOW WHERE TO GO NEXT. END SUMMARY.

3. WHEN I DELIVERED THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER OF REPLY TO PRIME MINISTER FITZGERALD (REF A) AT NOON ON JULY 27,

HE ENGAGED ME IN AN HOUR'S CONVERSATION ALMOST EX-CLUSIVELY DEVOTED TO THE HABLOCK HUNGER STRIKE. HE WAS DBVIOUSLY DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER THE EFFECT OF THE CON-

TINUING STRIKE ON THE STABILITY AND FABRIC OF THE RE-PUBLIC. WE WERE ALONE EXCEPT FOR THE NEWLY LAPPOINTED

DIPLOMATIC ADVISOR TO THE PRIME MINISTER, MICHAEL LILLIS (REF B), WHO TOOK NOTES.

4. AFTER READING THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER CAREFULLY, FITZGERALD ASKED WHETHER I KNEW IF THE HUNGER-STRIKE

QUESTION HAD COME UP INFORMALLY BETWEEN THE PRESI-DENT AND MRS. THATCHER AT DITAWA. I REPLIED THAT I

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DATE 07/29/81//210

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DIDN'T KNOW. HE CONTINUED BY LAMENTING THE FACT THAT NEWS OF THE LETTER WAS MADE PUBLIC HERE, AND ASCRIBED IT TO CONFUSION AND MISUNDERSTANDING DURING THE TRANSITION OF GOVERNMENTS. 5. FITZGERALD SAID HE HAD WISHED TO KEEP HIS APPROACH ABSOLUTELY QUIET SINCE HE JUDGED THAT CONFIDENTIALITY WOULD ENHANCE THE CHANGES OF A FAVORABLE REACTION BY THE PRESIDENT. INDEED, HE IMPLIED THAT HIS APPROACH MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN MADE WERE IT NOT FOR A FORTUITOUS COMBINA-TION OF EVENTS: THE VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT TO THE IRISH EMBASSY; THE OTTAWA SUMMIT; THE IMMINENCE OF DEATH OF TWO HUNGER STRIKERS; THE REFUSAL OF THATCHER TO BUDGE DESPITE THE ADVICE OF HER OWN PEOPLE; AND FITZGERALD.S ASSESSMENT THAT ONLY THE PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER SCHMIDT HAD SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE WITH HER. 6. IN REPLY TO MY QUESTION, FITZGERALD SAID HE HAD NOT SO FAR ATTEMPTED TO ENLIST THE HELP OF SCHMIDT OR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT OR LEADER EXCEPT THE U.S. PRESIDENT. HE DID NOT WANT TO "INTERNATIONALIZE" NORTHERN IRELAND. THE WELCOME STATEMENTS BY FRENCH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ON THE HUNGER STRIKE WERE ENTIRELY SELF-INITIATED. 7. FITZGERALD RECALLED THE "ELECTRIC EFFECT" OF PRESIDENT CARTER.S FEW WORDS TO THATCHER AT THE TOKYO SUMMIT. HE ASSERTED FOREIGN MINISTER CARRINGTON HAD TOLD HIM OF THIS AND A THREE-YEAR "TIME LIMIT" (NOT CLEAR WHETHER IT WAS SELF-IMPOSED) ON THE UKG TO FIND A "SOLUTION" TO NORTHERN IRELAND. IN FACT, SAID FITZGERALD, THE INITIATIVE NI SECRETARY HUMPHREY ATKINS LAUNCHED IN JULY 1980 WAS PARTIALLY PROPELLED BY THE SENSE OF URGENCY AND CONCERN FOR RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. CREATED BY THE CARTER AP-PROACH. FITZGERALD COMMENTED THAT THINGS SLOWED DOWN WHEN IT BECAME INCREASINGLY EVIDENT THAT KENNEDY WAS NOT GUING TO BE THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE AND CITED THIS SOMEWHAT PERPLEXING BRITISH REACTION AS AN EXAMPLE OF THEIR MUDDY THINKING ON NORTHERN IRELAND. 8. FITZGERALD SAID THAT THE POSITIONS REACHED BY THE IRISH COMMISSION ON JUSTICE AND PEACE AND THE UKG WERE THE ONLY UNCERTAINTY, ABOUT VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL. PRISON WORK, COULD HAVE BEEN RESULVED. THE OBDURACY AND HYPOCRISY OF THATCHER WAS MOST RECENTLY REVEALED BY THE REFUSAL OF THE NIO OFFICIALS TO ALLOW BRENDAN MCFARLANE TO SIT IN ON THEIR ATTEMPTED "CLARIFICATION" DURING THEIR BT #3113 NNNN

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 07/29/81//210

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MESSAGE / ANNOTATION

MESSAGE:
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FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7125
BT

SECRET SECTION 02 OF 02 DUBLIN 03113 NODIS/NOFORN 0200 HOURS VISIT TO THE MAZE JULY 21. ON EARLIER OCCA-SIONS, FITZGERALD SAID, THE BRITISH HAVE DEALT WITH MCFARLANE AS LEADER OF THE PRISONERS AND, IN FACT, HAVE ACCEPTED HIS PRESENTATION OF THE POSITION ON THE H-BLOCK PRISONERS WITHOUT CONFIRMATION BY INDIVIDUAL'S CONCERNED. 9. IT IS MRS. THATCHER HERSELF WHO HAS CIRCUMSCRIBED ACTION AND OVERRULED ADVICE GIVEN HER NOT ONLY BY HER CIVIL SERVICE AND DIPLOMATS BUT ALSO BY MEMBERS OF HER DWN CABINET. INDEED, THE JULY 27 MEDIA REPORTED THAT EVEN THE GRAND MASTER UP THE DRANGE DRDER, THE REV. MARTIN SMYTH, CALLED ON THE UKG TO BE MORE FLEXIBLE AND SPELL OUT EXACTLY WHAT IT WAS PREPARED TO OFFER. SHE WILL ACCEPT ONLY WHAT SHE REGARDS A "COMPLETE VICTORY." 10. IN THE MEANTIME, FITZGERALD SAID THE STABILITY OF THE REPUBLIC IS BEING INCREASINGLY THREATENED. SUPPORT FOR THE PROVISIONAL IRISH REPUBLICAN ARMY (PIRA) IS GREATER IN THE SOUTH THAN AT ANY TIME SINCE THE 192015, THE GOI HAS CONCEALED ITS FULL CONCERN OVER THE JULY 18 RIOT NEAR THE BRITISH EMBASSY (REF C). THE POLICE ALMOST BROKE THEIR RANKS UNDER THE UNSLAUGHT OF THEIR ATTACKERS, AND SOME RESULTANT POLICE OVERREACTION WAS A REFLECTION OF THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THIS. (FITZGERALD DID NOT SAY THIS, BUT HAD THE POLICE BROKEN, THE ONLY SECURITY ELEMENT BETWEEN THE RIOTERS AND THE BRITISH EMBASSY WAS THE ARMY. ITS COMMANDERS -- AND THE GOI -- MIGHT HAVE HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN A REPETITION OF THE DESTRUCTION OF THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN 1972 AND THE USE OF DEADLY FORCE.) 11. FITZGERALD CONCLUDED ON TWO POINTS. FIRST WAS THE RHETORICAL QUESTION OF WHAT HE SHOULD ANSWER TO PRESS INQUIRY HERE ABOUT WHAT REPLY HE HAD RECEIVED FROM THE PRESIDENT. THE SECOND WAS A "CRI DE COUR"! ALTHOUGH THE GOI IS OBVIOUSLY CONCERNED WITH WHAT GOES ON IN

NORTHERN TRELAND, FITZGERALD SAID HE WOULD NOT BE GIVING

PAGE 1 - 28

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 07/29/81//210

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MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

SO MUCH ATTENTION TO THE HUNGER STRIKE UNLESS HE THOUGHT THAT IT WAS PRODUCING SERTOUS PROBLEMS IN THE REPUBLIC AND IN IRISH RELATIONS WITH THE U.K. HE SAID HE HAD HOPED TO MOVE HARD AGAINST TERRORISTS IN THE SOUTH. (PRESUMABLY HE MEANT THEIR SUPPORT OF PIRA ACTIVITIES IN THE NORTH.) THIS WAS NOW IMPOSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE REPERCUSSIONS OF THE HUNGER-STRIKE DEATHS. THERE WERE INDICATIONS THAT THE STRIKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES WANTED TO END THE STRIKE IF THEIR MINIMUM REQUESTS COULD BE ASSURED BY THE UKG. EACH NEW DEATH MAKES ACCOMMODATION MORE DIFFICULT AND INCREASES TENSION IN THE SOUTH. 12. (I TOOK AWAY THE IMPRESSION THAT THE NORMALLY-DYNAMIC FITZGERALD HAD BEEN GROUND DOWN BY THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN, THE INTENSE NEGOTIATIONS LEADING UP TO THE OPENING OF THE NEW DAIL, THE HASTILY-CONSTRUCTED MINI-BUDGET AND -- MOST OF ALL -- THE HUNGER STRIKE. HE DIDN.T SEEM TO KNOW WHERE TO GO NEXT ON THE LIST.) 13. COMMENT BY SEPTEL. 14. DEPARTMENT REPEAT TO LONDON AND BELFAST AS DESIRED. RUSHING BT #3113 NNNN

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•***** E C R E T******

DATE 08/02/81

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 01

WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:

SIT:

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MESSAGE:

THMEDIATE
DE RUFHOB #3143 2111416
D 301415Z JUL 81 ZFF=4
FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHOC IMMEDIATE 7138

S E C R E T DUBLIN 03143

NODIS/NOFORN

F.O. 12065: RDS=1 7/30/01 (RUSHING, CHARLES E.) OR=M

TAGS: PINT, PEPR, PINS, UK, US, EI

SUBJECT: CORRECTION TO REFTEL RE PM FITZGERALD'S H=BLOCK

DISCUSSION

REF: DUBLIN 3113

1. THE FOLLOWING ERRORS WERE MADE IN REFTEL:
-- PARA 10, LINE 4: "1920'S" SHOULD BE "1930'S"
-- PARA 12, LAST LINE: "LIST" SHOULD BE "LAST," I.E.
THE HUNGER STRIKE.

2. IF DEPARTMENT REPEATED REFTEL TO LONDON AND BELFAST, PLEASE REPEAT THE PRESENT MESSAGE AS WELL. RUSHING

DUBLIN 3143

DTG:301415Z JUL 81 PSN: 047481 TOR: 211/1512Z

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STT645 R

DATE 08/02/81

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 61

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DE RUFHD8 #3186/01 2121642
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FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

NLRR148-15-26-6-7 BY (COB NARA DATE 77/15

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7144

C D N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 DUBLIN 03186

NODIS/NOFORN

F.O. 12065: ROS-3 7/31/01 (RUSHING, CHARLES E.) OR-M

TAGS: PINS, PINT, EI, UK

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER FITZGERALD'S VIEWS ON H-BLOCK:

EMBASSY CUMMENT

PEF: A) DUBLIN 3113; B) DUBLIN 3051; C) DUBLIN 3000;

D) DUBLIN 2950; E) DUBLIN 2936

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT

2. SHMMARY. WE JUDGE THAT PRIME MINISTER FITZGERALD TS STUCERELY WORKIED ABOUT THE IMPACT OF A CONTINUING H-BLOCK CRISIS ON STABILITY IN THE REPUBLIC AND ON ANGLO-IRISH RELATIONS. HIS CONCERN IS SHARED BY OTHER DASERVERS OF THE TRISH SCENE. FITZGERALD IS ON SOLID GROUND IN ASSERTING THAT A PROLONGED CRISIS COULD SERIOUSLY DAMAGE ANGLO-IRISH TIES. WE ALSO BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT HE HAS OVERREACTED SOMEWHAT TO THE JULY 18 RIDT AND THAT THE EVENT COULD ACTUALLY INCREASE STABILITY BY INCHEASING AWARENESS OF THE PROVISIONAL TRAIS MENACE TO THE REPUBLIC'S SOCIAL FABRIC. ONE OF THE POTENTIALLY MOST SERIOUS ASPECTS OF THE H-BLOCK PROBLEM FOR THE REPUBLIC IS THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE PROTEST HAS ATTRACTED YOUTHFUL SUPPORT FOR LARGELY NON-POLITICAL REASONS. RISING JOBLESSNESS AND HOPELESS-MESS AMONG THE YOUNG POSE A MAJOR LONG-TERM CHALLENGE

DUBLIN 3186

DTG:311623Z JUL 81 PSN: 050072 TOR: 213/0850Z

******* C O N F I D E N T I A L ******

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02

MESSAGE (CONTINUED):

TO IRISH GOVERNMENTS. END SUMMARY.

3. THE FIRST POINT TO MAKE ABOUT FITZGERALD'S VIEWS AS EXPRESSED TO THE CHARGE ON JULY 27 (REF A) IS THAT WE RELIEVE HE IS UTTERLY SINCERE AND THAT HE IS CLEARLY WORRTED. ONE HALLMARK OF HIS ENTIRE CAREER HAS BEEN HIS PATENT HONESTY EVEN WHEN THIS HAS NOT BEEN POLITICALLY ASTUTE. FITZGERALD WAS VISIBLY SHAKEN DURING A TELEVISION INTERVIEW AFTER VISITING THOSE INJURED IN THE JULY 18 RIOT (REF C); SEVERAL CONTACTS TOLD US AFTERWARD THAT THEY SYMPATHIZE WITH HIS OBVIOUS CONCERN THOUGH THEY BELIEVE AN IRISH PRIME MINISTER SHOULD DISPLAY A BETTER-CONTROLLED PUBLIC IMAGE.

4. FROM RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH RESPECTED IRISH ACADEMICS, MEDIA PEOPLE AND DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES, WE KNOW THAT FITZGERALD'S CONCERN OVER THE STABILITY OF THE GOVERNMENT HERE IS SHARED. ONE OF IRELAND'S BEST KNOWN FIGURES, BRIAN FARRELL, WHO IS BOTH A UNIVERSITY LECTURER AND TELEVISION POLITICAL COMMENTATOR TOLD THE CHARGE JULY 30 THAT HE FEELS A DEEPER MALAISE ABOUT POLITICAL CONDITIONS IN THE REPUBLIC THAN AT ANY OTHER TIME SINCE THE CURRENT TROUBLES STARTED IN 1969.

5. FARRELL SAID IT WAS DIFFICULT TO CITE SPECIFIC EXAMPLES TO SUPPORT HIS VISCERAL FEELING. HE DID SAY, HOWEVER, THAT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE COMPLETELY UNPREDICTED VICTORY OF TWO MAZE PRISONERS—AND THE GOOD SHOWING BY SEVERAL OTHERS—IN THE JUNE IRISH ELECTIONS HAS NOT BEEN RECOGNIZED. HE ALSO VOICED THE CONCERN FARLIER ARTICULATED SEPARATELY BY A SENIOR DFA OFFICIAL AND BY THE PRIME MINISTER'S DIPLOMATIC ADVISOR (REFS B AND F) OVER THE EFFECT IN THE REPUBLIC OF BY-ELECTIONS OR ANOTHER GENERAL ELECTION HERE FOUGHT IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF HUNGER—STRIKE DEATHS.

6. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT THE PRIME MINISTER HAS OVERREACTED SOMEWHAT TO THE H-BLOCK SITUATION. THE JULY 18
RIOT WAS A SHOCK TO THE IRISH PUBLIC AS WERE SIMILAR
BUT SMALLER INCIDENTS OF STREET VIOLENCE IN DUBLIN IN
MAY FULLOWING THE DEATHS OF HUNGER STRIKERS BOBBY SANDS
AND FRANCIS HUGHES. OVERWHELMINGLY, HOWEVER, THE
PUBLIC REACTION TO THE VIOLENCE HAS BEEN ONE OF HOSTIL+
TTY TO THE DEMONSTRATORS AND SYMPATHY FOR THE POLICE

DUBLIN 3186

DTG:311623Z JUL 81 PSN: 050072 TOR: 213/0850Z

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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE Ø3

MESSAGE (CONTINUED):

AS IN MAY SO IN JULY, THE "TRISH PRESS" (PRO-FIANNA FATL OPPOSITION PARTY AND GENERALLY SYMPATHETIC TO THE HUNGER STRIKERS) EDITORIALIZED THAT H-BLOCK SUPPORTERS. ACTIONS WERE GRAVELY JEOPARDIZING THEIR CAUSE. THUS, RECENT EVENTS COULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF INCREASING STABILITY HERE THROUGH INCREASING AWARENESS OF THE MENACE POSED BY THE PROVISIONAL IRA (PIRA), THE MOTIVE FORCE BEHIND MOST H-BLOCK COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES.

7. AN EXAMPLE OF FITZGERALD'S ALARMIST MOOD IS HIS STATEMENT (REF A) THAT IRA SUPPORT IN THE REPUBLIC IS GREATER THAN AT ANY TIME SINCE THE 1930'S. WHILE THE FXTENT OF SUCH SUPPORT HAS ALWAYS BEEN DIFFICULT TO GUAGE WITH PRECISION, WE DOUGH THAT IT CURRENTLY IS ANYTHING LIKE AS GREAT AS IT WAS IN 1972, WHEN THE

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PAGE 01

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MESSAGE:

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DE RUFHDB #3186/02 2121650
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TO SECSTATE MASHDC 7145

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 02 OF 32 DUBLIN 03186 NODIS/NOFORN RRITTSH EMBASSY WAS BURNED, OR SOMEWHAT LATER WHEN SECTARIAN KILLINGS WERE RIFE IN NORTHERN IRELAND. INDEED, WHILE THERE IS SYMPATHY HERE FOR THE HUMANITARIAN PLIGHT OF YOUNG MEN EMPLOYING THE TRADITIONAL "REPUBLICAN" HUNGER STRIKE PROTEST WEAPON, THERE IS ALSO A CLEAR AWARENESS THAT PIRA IS MANIPULATING THESE MEN FOR ITS OWN ENDS. THE PIRA THEREFORE JOINS THE UKG IN THE DOCK OF IRISH PUBLIC OPINION AS GUILTY OF OBDURACY IN THE HEBLOCK CRISIS

8. WF DO BELIEVE FITZGERALD IS ON SOLID GROUND WHEN ASSERTING THAT PROLONGATION OF THE CRISIS COULD CAUSE SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN ANGLO-IRISH RELATIONS. THE PER-CEPTION HERE IS ALMOST UNANIMOUS, INCLUDING THAT OF THE RRITTSH AMBASSADOR (REF D), THAT THE UKG COULD HAVE SOLVED THE ISSUE WITHOUT SACRIFICE OF PRINCIPLES (IE ACCORD SOME FORM OF SPECIAL OR POLITICAL STATUS) IF IT HAD SHOWN A LITTLE FLEXIBILITY. ABOVE ALL, THERE IS THE IMPRESSION THAT UK PRIME MINISTER THATCHER IS A PIGID AND REMURSELESS FIGURE BENT ON COMPLETE VICTORY. GIVEN INEVITABLE REPERCUSSIONS NORTH AND SOUTH OF THE CONTINUING CRISIS, THE TONE AND CONTENT OF ANGLO-IRISH TIES DBVIOUSLY WILL SUFFER--AT LEAST FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

DUBLIN 3185

OTG:311623Z JUL 81 PSN: 050073 TOR: 213/0851Z

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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02

MESSAGE (CONTINUED):

Q. LESS CERTAIN ARE THE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE REPUBLIC OF A PROLONGED H-BLOCK CRISIS. WE DOUBT SECURITY COOPERATION WITH THE UK WILL BE AFFECTED SINCE THIS IS FRUALLY MUCH IN THE GOI'S INTEREST AS IN THE UKG'S. AS NOTED IN REF E, THERE COULD BE AN IMPACT ON THE SHAKY PARLIAMENTARY SITUATION IN THE SOUTH, BUT H-BLOCK CANDIDATES (IF THEY STAND) WOULD NOT LIKELY WIN BY-FLECTION CONTESTS AND FIANNA FAIL MAY HAVE DIFFICULTY MAKING MUCH CAPITAL OUT OF AN ISSUE IT WAS SO MANIFEST-LY UNABLE TO SOLVE WHEN IN POWER, FIANNA FAIL COULD WELL WIN THE CAVAN-MONAGHAN BY-ELECTION IF HUNGER STRIKER KIERAN DOHERTY DIES; IT MIGHT NOT BE SO SUCCESSFUL WITH THE GENERAL ELECTORATE IF IT SOUGHT TO TOPPLE THE COALITION GOVERNMENT ON THE H-BLOCK ISSUE. MEMORIES ARE NOT THAT SHORT--PARTICULARLY IN IRELAND. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT A GOOD DEAL OF FITZGERALD'S ALARM RELATES TO HIS REGIME'S TENUOUS HOLD ON POWER.

10. TO US, ONE OF THE POTENTIALLY MOST SERIOUS ASPECTS OF THE H-BLOCK PROBLEM FOR THE SOUTH IS ONE WHICH HAS REEN LITTLE DISCUSSED. THAT IS THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE PROTEST HAS ATTRACTED YOUTHFUL SUPPORT FOR LARGELY NON-POLITICAL REASONS. MUCH OF THE MAY AND SOME OF THE JULY 10 VIOLENCE WAS ASCRIBED HERE TO HOOLIGANISM, VANDALISM AND ANTI-SOCIAL IMPULSES. THERE IS RISING INEMPLOYMENT, PARTICULARLY AMONG THE YOUNG, AND THE VAGUE BUT PALPABLE FEELING OF HOPELESSNESS WHICH SO OFTEN ACCOMPANIES JOBLESSNESS. THIS POSES A MAJOR LONG-TERM CHALLENGE TO IRISH GOVERNMENTS AND FAILURE ON THAT FRONT COULD SWELL THE RANKS OF H-BLOCK AND OTHER FORMS OF PROTEST MARCHES AND INCREASE THE "TRASHING" WHICH FOLLOWED RECENT H-BLOCK DEMONSTRATIONS.

11. TF THE H-BLUCK CRISIS IS VIEWED AS A FOCAL POINT FOR THIS UNREST, PATHER THAN AS A RALLYING POINT FOR THE PIRA PER SE, THEN FITZGERALD IS CERTAINLY RIGHT IN SAYING THAT THE CRISIS POSES A SERTOUS PROBLEM FOR THE REPUBLIC. THERE IS A FAINT ECHO OF TOXTETH IN WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN DUBLIN.

12. DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO LONDON AND BELFAST AS DESTRED. RUSHING

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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 03

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DATE 08/13/81

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 01

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BY (COT) NARA DATE 1/1/15

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MESSAGES

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D 081831Z AUG 81 ZFF=4
FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 03269

NDDIA

5.0. 12065: RDS=1 8/8/01 (RUSHING, CHARLES E.) OR=M

TAGS: PDIP, PEPR, EI, US

SUBJECT: GOI EXPRESSES HOPE PROTOCOL WILL BE FOLLOWED

WITH NEW US AMBASSADOR

REF: DUBLIN 3268

T. CE - ENTIRE TEXT).

IN A CONVERSATION WITH ME TODAY (AUGUST 8), A HIGH OFFICIAL IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE EXPRESSED THE MOPE THAT TRADITIONAL DIPLOMATIC CONVENTION AND PROTOCOL WOULD BE OBSERVED IN CONNECTION WITH THE POSSIBLE DECISION BY PRESIDENT REAGAN TO CHANGE AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATES TO IRELAND. ASSISTANT SECRETARY MICHAEL LILL'S WAS REFERRING TO THE STORIES REPORTED IN REFTEL.

PRESIDENT REAGAN'S VISIT TO THE IRISH EMBASSY ON MARCH 17 AND DID NOT NOTE THE DEVIATION FROM PROTOCOL BY THE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT'S DESIGNATION OF WILLIAM MCCANN BEFORE AGREEMENT BY THE GOI HAD BEEN OBTAINED. BUT, SAID LILLIS, THE IRISH "HOPE" THAT IF THE PRESIDENT DECIDES TO WITHDRAW MCCANN'S NAME AND ADVANCE THAT OF ANOTHER, THE GOI WOULD BE ADVISED IN A TIMELY FASHION AND ACCORDING TO TRADITIONAL RULES OF DIPLOMACY. RUSHING

DUBLIN 3269

DTG:081831Z AUG 81 PSN: 002834 TOR: 220/2028Z

******** O N FIT D E N T I A L ******

DATE 08/13/81

END OF MESSAGE FOOTER

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 22

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DUBLIN 3269

DTG:081831Z AUG 81 PSN: 002034 TOR: 220/2028Z

********** O N F I D E N T I A L ******

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

4367

CONFIDENTIAL

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NLRR 748-15-26-11-1

August 17, 1981

35

BY CATS NARA DATE 7/1/15

MEMORANDUM FOR L. PAUL BREMER III

Executive Secretary Department of State

SUBJECT:

Visit to the U.S. by Irish Prime Minister

FitzGerald

On August 6 you renewed the recommendation of July 22 that the President meet with Prime Minister FitzGerald.

The President will be unable to receive Prime Minister FitzGerald at the new time specified in the August 6 memo. The Department is requested to inform the Irish Embassy accordingly.

Charles P. Tyson

CONFIDENTIAL Review on August 11, 1987

4367 Add-On

36

MEMORANDUM

UNCLASSIFIED WITH NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

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August 11, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD V. ALLE

THROUGH:

CHARLES P. TYSON

FROM:

DENNIS C. BUAIR JAMES M. RENTSCHLER

SUBJECT:

Second Request from State Department for

Presidential Meeting with Irish Prime Minister

FitzGerald

On 22 July State recommended that the President receive Prime Minister FitzGerald in late September. We informed them that such a meeting would not be possible.

On 6 August another request on the same subject was received from State. The request for a meeting was renewed, the dates were changed to early October, and the meeting was based on the context of an effort to discourage U.S. contributions to the IRA.

We still do not think such a meeting merits an exception to the "no more foreign visitors this year" policy.

Mike Deaver has also given Chuck Tyson an unofficial negative reaction to such a visit.

RECOMMENDATION

That you approve Chuck Tyson signing the memo at Tab I, turning down the meeting of the President with Prime Minister FitzGerald.

Approve

Disapprove

Tab I

Memo to State

A - State August 6 memo

B - State July 22 memo

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ATTACHMENT

#4367

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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August 10, 1981

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ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR JAMES RENTSCHLER

FROM:

CHARLES P. TYSON

SUBJECT:

State's Second Request re Visit to the

US by Irish Prime Minister FitzGerald

(Tab A)

Mike Deaver has specifically said "no" to me regarding this invitation.

However, it should be Mr. Allen's decision as to whether or not it is to be submitted again.

RECOMMENDATION

That you write a memo to Mr. Allen for decision.

cc: Richard V. Allen

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

August 6, 1981

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BY (CO) NARA DATE 1/17 (Entire text)

NLRR 743-15-26-85 CONFIDENTIAL EXDIS

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. RICHARD V. ALLEN THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject:

Visit to the United States by Irish Prime Minister FitzGerald

Irish Ambassador Donlon has reemphasized to the Department Prime Minister FitzGerald's strong interest in meeting with the President during a visit to the United States this fall. Irish Embassy had earlier indicated to us that the Prime Minister would be making a private visit to the US September 24-27. Donlon said that FitzGerald now does not plan to travel in September. He would be able to come in the first half of October but must be back in Ireland when the Irish Parliament resumes its session October 20.

In conveying this message, Ambassador Donlon stressed the GOI's concern that IRA fund-raising in the US has increased as a result of the Maze Prison hunger strike. Donlon said the Prime Minister is anxious to contribute personally to a GOI effort to counter this renewed support for the IRA; the Prime Minister is a familiar figure in the Irish-American community and feels he can make an impact. Donlon added, however, that the Prime Minister would not want to undertake a trip unless he could be received by the President and have his efforts identified with the President.

The Department believes that an effort by FitzGerald to discourage IRA fund-raising in this country would be consistent with the President's March 17 policy statement on Northern Ireland. We accordingly reaffirm our July 22 recommendation (S/S 8121743) that the President agree to receive FitzGerald.

> L. Paul Bremer, III Executive Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

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NLRR 148-15-26-11-1 BY CONT NARA DATE 1/7/15

August 5, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR L. PAUL BREMER III

Executive Secretary Department of State

SUBJECT:

Visit to the United States by Irish Prime

Minister Garret FitzGerald

In a memorandum of July 22, the Department recommended that the President receive Irish Prime Minister FitzGerald for a brief office call in late September. (C)

The President will be unable to receive Prime Minister Fitz-Gerald at that time due to scheduling considerations. It will be extremely difficult for the President to receive any foreign visitors for the rest of the year in addition to the large number already scheduled. The Department is requested to discourage further requests except under exceptional circumstances.

Charles P. Tyson

CONFIDENTIAL REVIEW on July 24, 1987

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IRELAND (7/27/81-8/17/81) F03-002/5

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BLAIR/RENTSCHLER TO ALLEN RE MEMO FROM STATE DEPT.

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

DECLASSIFIED

July 22, 1981

BY (COD NARA DATE 7/7/18

CONFIDENTIAL

(Entire text)

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. RICHARD V. ALLEN THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject:

Visit to the United States by Irish Prime Minister Garret FitzGerald

The Irish Embassy has informed the Department that Prime Minister Garret FitzGerald will be making a private visit to the United States September 24-27 and would like very much to schedule a day in Washington and to call, if possible, on the President.

FitzGerald took office June 30 following the closest Irish election in recent years. His minority coalition government has only a single-vote parliamentary majority, and a new election could be held as early as this fall. While there is no way to predict FitzGerald's chances for continuing on as Prime Minister for any length of time, he is an intelligent, energetic, outspoken, and widely popular figure who will remain a major force on the Irish political scene, with important influence on Irish public opinion.

The Department recommends that the President agree to a brief office call by FitzGerald, perhaps followed by a luncheon. Should the President be unable to host a luncheon, we recommend that the Vice President do so. The Vice President met with FitzGerald on April 1, when FitzGerald visited Washington as leader of the opposition.

L. Paul Bremer, III Executive Secretary

> CONFIDENTIAL RDS-3 7/17/01

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NSC/S PROFILE

ID 8104367

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CASSINED ENCLOSURES RECEIVED 23 JUL 81 08

TO ALLEN

FROM BREMER

DOCDATE 22 JUL 81

BIAIR

24 JUL 81

RENTSCHLER

24 JUL 81

KEYWORDS: IRELAND

VISIT

FITZGERALD, GARRET

AP

SUBJECT: APPT REQUEST FOR IRISH PM FOR MTG W/ PRES SEP 24 - 27

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR ALLEN DUE: 30 JUL 81 STATUS C FILES PA

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TO ALLEN

KEYWORDS: IRELAND

VISIT FITZGERALD, CARRET

AP

SUBJECT: APPT REQUEST FOR IRISH PM FCR MTG W/ PRES SEP 24 - 27

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR ALLEN DUE: 25 JUL 81 STATUS S FILES

FOR ACTION

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