

020101Z

REFERRED TO PS FOR DISTRIBUTION ADVICE, ADVANCE REMAINDER  
LMDAN 2546 WBLNAN 4854

SECRET

OO FCOLN NIOLN  
FM WASHI TO FCOLN  
O12337Z OCT  
GRS 632

RECEIVED  
1186  
- 4 OCT 1993  
DUS'S OFFICE

cc Mr Thomas

SECRET

FM WASHINGTON  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELNO 2199  
OF O12337Z OCTOBER 93  
AND IMMEDIATE TO NIO(L)  
INFO IMMEDIATE DUBLIN

DUBLIN PERSONAL FOR AMBASSADOR

NIO(L) STRICTLY PERSONAL FOR PS/SECRETARY OF STATE: CHILCOT: COOKE  
FOLLOWING PERSONAL FOR PRIVATE SECRETARY, PUS AND HEAD RID.

NORTHERN IRELAND

SUMMARY

1. CONVERSATION WITH TARNOFF ABOUT JOHN HUME AND JEAN KENNEDY SMITH.

DETAIL

2. I HAD A WORD WITH TARNOFF, UNDER-SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS, ABOUT JOHN HUME'S VISIT. I SAID THAT HE WOULD BE SEEING NANCY SODERBERG AT THE WHITE HOUSE AND MIGHT GET TO SHAKE THE PRESIDENT'S HAND. HE WOULD ALSO BE RECEIVED IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

3. I SAID THAT WE HAD A HIGH REGARD FOR JOHN HUME WHO HAD SHOWN GREAT COURAGE OVER THE YEARS IN HIS DEALINGS WITH THE IRA AND HAD AN ABSOLUTE COMMITMENT TO PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS. WE DID NOT HAVE A READOUT OF HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH GERRY ADAMS BUT SOME SECTIONS OF THE PRESS APPEARED TO BE SUGGESTING THAT THESE MIGHT HAVE ACHIEVED MORE THAN WE SUSPECTED TO BE THE CASE. I WANTED TO MAKE OUR POSITION CLEAR ON THREE POINTS:

1) VIOLENCE. WHAT WAS REQUIRED FROM THE IRA WAS A CESSATION OF VIOLENCE AND NOT SOME KIND OF QUOTE CEASE-FIRE UNQUOTE. THE VIOLENCE WOULD HAVE TO END FOR A LONG ENOUGH TIME TO CONVINCE SCEPTICAL MINDS THAT A REAL CHANGE HAD TAKEN PLACE. SO FAR WHAT WE HAD WITNESSED HAD BEEN MORE BOMB EXPLOSIONS IN BELFAST. WE WOULD NOT NEGOTIATE WITH THOSE COMMITTED TO VIOLENCE AND NOR WOULD THE IRISH GOVERNMENT.

2) SELF-DETERMINATION. THE PRESS WERE SUGGESTING THAT ADAMS WANTED A COMMITMENT TO SELF-DETERMINATION. THERE ALREADY WAS A COMMITMENT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AS EXPRESSED IN ARTICLE ONE OF THE ANGLO-IRISH AGREEMENT. THE CONSTITUTIONAL STATUS OF NORTHERN IRELAND WOULD BE CHANGED IF A MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE WANTED IT TO BE, BUT NOT OTHERWISE. THAT WAS THE POSITION ALSO OF THE IRISH GOVERNMENT.

3) PEACE ENVOY. I SAID THAT THE ADMINISTRATION SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE VERY CAREFUL ABOUT THIS. ALTHOUGH THEY SOMETIMES GAVE MIXED SIGNALS, WE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT THE IRISH GOVERNMENT WERE MUCH MORE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE IDEA THAN WE WERE. I HOPED THAT THE AMERICANS WOULD LISTEN SYMPATHETICALLY TO JOHN HUME. IF THERE WERE ANY POINTS THEY WISHED TO FOLLOW UP, THEY SHOULD RAISE THEM WITH

US. AS THE PRIME MINISTER HAD MADE CLEAR TO THE PRESIDENT,  
APPOINTMENT OF AN ENVOY WOULD CAUSE A VIOLENT REACTION FROM THE  
UNIONISTS AND BE LIKELY TO END IN FIASCO.

4. TARNOFF SAID THAT IT WAS VERY HELPFUL TO HAVE THIS CALL. HE  
APPEARED TO REALISE THAT THE IRISH GOVERNMENT THINK THAT JOHN HUME  
MAY HAVE CREATED EXCESSIVE EXPECTATIONS. THE AMERICANS WOULD BE IN  
TOUCH WITH US AFTER HIS CALLS.

5. TARNOFF THEN RAISED THE ACTIVITIES OF JEAN KENNEDY SMITH. HE  
ASKED FOR A QUOTE NON-CONVERSATION UNQUOTE. I SAID THAT WE  
ACCEPTED THAT SHE WANTED TO HELP BUILD BRIDGES BETWEEN THE  
COMMUNITIES. THERE WERE WAYS IN WHICH SHE COULD USEFULLY DO SO EG  
BY INVITING SOME UNIONISTS TO DUBLIN OR SHOWING SUPPORT FOR  
VENTURES BY THE AMERICAN IRISH FUND, THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR  
IRELAND ETC. BUT IT HAD BEEN A SERIOUS MISTAKE TO ATTEND A TRIAL  
OF REPUBLICANS IN THE NORTH. IT ALSO WAS A MISTAKE TO BE SEEN WITH  
GERRY ADAMS. RAY SEITZ WAS VERY WORRIED ABOUT THIS AND HE WAS  
RIGHT. ANY SUCCESSOR TO SEITZ WOULD BE WORRIED ABOUT IT TOO.  
TARNOFF STRONGLY AGREED. HE SAID THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAD  
THOUGHT THAT THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF HER ATTENDING THE TRIAL.  
THEY WERE NOW COMMUNICATING WITH HER ABOUT THIS. TARNOFF SAID THAT  
WE HAD BEEN ABSOLUTELY RIGHT TO TRY TO HANDLE THIS WITH A FAIRLY  
LIGHT TOUCH OURSELVES AS, OTHERWISE, THERE COULD BE SOME PUBLIC  
DAMAGE HERE. THEY WILL BE SEEKING TO DISSUADE HER FROM ACTIVITIES  
IN THE NORTH WHICH COULD GIVE HIGHLY PARTISAN IMPRESSIONS.

6. WE HAVE SPOKEN IN SIMILAR TERMS ABOUT THE HUME/ADAMS TALKS TO  
THE NSC.

FCO PLEASE PASS PERSONAL TO LYNE, NO. 10.

RENWICK

YYYY

WBLNAN 4854