

GROUPS 1150

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM DUBLIN 081600Z DECEMBER 1981. PS TO PM. NO 10 DOWNING STREET,  
TO IMMEDIATE F C O  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 426 OF 08 DECEMBER.  
AND TO PRIORITY NIO BELFAST, WASHINGTON, AND BIS NEW YORK

MIPT : CLARK VISIT

FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF CLARK'S TV INTERVIEW BROADCAST ON 07  
DECEMBER:

BEGIN TEXT.

Q. MANY PEOPLE IN THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS HAVE SEEN  
YOUR VISIT AS INDICATING A NEW INITIATIVE BY THE UNITED  
STATES IN RELATION TO NORTHERN IRELAND. IS THERE ANY  
BASIS FOR THAT?

A. NO, BRIAN, NOT A NEW INITIATIVE BUT REAFFIRMATION  
OF WHAT PRESIDENT REAGAN SAID EARLIER THIS YEAR WHILE  
VISITING YOUR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON -- I BELIEVE IT WAS  
ON ST PATRICK'S DAY APPROPRIATELY THAT OUR HOPE, OUR  
PRAYERS BUILD TOWARDS A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE  
PROBLEMS IN NORTHERN IRELAND. MY VISIT AT THE GOOD  
INVITATION OF YOUR FOREIGN MINISTER DOOGE AND SEAN  
DONLON, RECENT AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON AND NOW  
SECRETARY, I'M HERE TO DISCUSS MANY ISSUES, BILATERAL  
MATTERS BOTH HERE, IN LONDON, BONN AND, OF COURSE  
NORTHERN IRELAND IS A PARAMOUNT QUESTION DURING OUR  
DISCUSSIONS HERE YESTERDAY, TODAY AND PROBABLY INTO  
TOMORROW BEFORE LEAVING FOR BONN. BUT NO, THERE IS NOT A  
NEW INITIATIVE, A REAFFIRMATION OF MR REAGAN'S EARLIER  
STATEMENT BUT AN EXTENSION--FURTHER HOPE FOR  
RECONCILIATION BETWEEN THE TWO TRADITIONS AND CERTAINLY  
THE HOPE, THE PRAYER OF ALL AMERICANS THAT THIS WILL  
ULTIMATELY LEAD TO THE UNIFICATION.

Q. DO YOU GET THE IMPRESSION IN LONDON THAT THE  
EXPECTATIONS, THE HOPES THAT THE TAOISEACH'S DEPARTURE,  
HIS INSISTENCE ON RECONCILING THE TRADITIONS, THAT THAT  
IS SHARED IN LONDON AND IN THE UNITED STATES?

A. OH, I BELIEVE SO. THE NEW INITIATIVE BETWEEN  
MRS THATCHER AND YOUR OWN PRIME MINISTER IS EVIDENCE OF  
THAT HOPE AND SO THE FEELINGS ARE SHARED THERE AS WELL.

Q. PRESIDENT REAGAN HAS SAID IN HIS LETTER TO THE  
TAOISEACH THAT ITS NOT FOR THE UNITED STATES TO CHART  
THE COURSE OTHERS MUST FOLLOW. THAT SEEMS TO SUGGEST  
THAT THERE WILL BE NO DIRECT AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT,  
PRESUMABLY IT MEANS THAT YOU WILL BE BENEVOLENTLY NEUTRAL  
AS FAR AS IRELAND IS CONCERNED?

/A. WE FEEL

A. WE FEEL THAT APPROPRIATE, NON-INTERVENTION ON THE ONE HAND AND YET AS MR REAGAN TOLD ME BEFORE LEAVING "STUDY THE CURRENT SITUATION, COME BACK AND WE WILL ASSESS IT" (NOTE: FROM THE TONE OF VOICE AND INFLECTION, THE IMPRESSION WAS GIVEN THAT THIS WAS A DIRECT QUOTE.) BUT FOR THE TIME BEING I MERELY STAND BY AND MAKE THE OFFER TO THE BRITISH AND TO YOUR OWN GOVERNMENT TO ASSIST IN ANY WAY WE CAN NOW OR IN ANTICIPATION OF THE PROBLEMS BEING SOLVED. I BELIEVE THAT HAS BEEN THE STANCE OF THE LAST SEVERAL ADMINISTRATIONS.

Q. I SUPPOSE MANY PEOPLE WANT TO KNOW IN THE SHORT TERM IS THERE ANYTHING YOU CAN DO ABOUT CUTTING BACK AID, MILITARY AID, FINANCIAL AID, TO THE PARAMILITARIES?

A. WE ARE AT THE MOMENT DOING SEVERAL THINGS IN THAT REGARD. THERE ARE CERTAIN MISCONCEPTIONS PERHAPS IN AMERICA OVER THE PROBLEMS HERE. AS YOU REALIZE THERE ARE SOME 20 TO 30 MILLION AMERICANS WHO CLAIM IRISH DESCENT. THE FEELING GOES BEYOND THOSE CLAIMING THE IRISH HERITAGE, WE HAVE A WONDERFUL RELATIONSHIP WITH THIS COUNTRY AS YOU WELL KNOW AND AT TIMES IN THIS CONCERN AND LOVE ON THE PART OF MANY FOR IRELAND WE HAVE, IF I MAY SAY SO, BEEN TOLD THAT THIS OR THAT FUND DRIVE ON BEHALF OF PERHAPS WIDOWS AND ORPHANS ON THE ONE HAND WHEN IN FACT THAT MONEY HAS BEEN MISDIRECTED INTO ARMS SALES. WE KNOW THAT, AND WORKING WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO UNCOVER SOME OF THESE DRIVES AND POINT OUT THAT THEY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO TERRORIST TACTICS AND I THINK THAT WE ARE ALL OF ONE MIND IN REALIZING THAT WE MUST ABHOR TERRORISM. I AM GLAD TO SEE THAT THE CHURCH, IN FACT BOTH CHURCHES, BOTH TRADITIONS, HAVE RECENTLY REAFFIRMED THEIR POSITION ON THE MORAL SIDE OF TERRORISM. PRESIDENT REAGAN FROM THE VERY BEGINNING OF HIS ADMINISTRATION SET OUT OUR POLICY TOWARD TERRORISM ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, WHETHER IT IS EVIDENCED BY THE HIJACKINGS OR BY ASSASSINATION WHICH WE HAVE SEEN IN SO MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD. SO WE ARE GOING TO A GREAT EFFORT TO: ONE, EDUCATE THE AMERICAN PUBLIC ON THE NECESSITY OF NOT SUPPORTING EITHER MORALLY OR FINANCIALLY THIS TYPE OF ACTIVITY AND SECONDLY, INVESTIGATING SOME OF THOSE ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN PERPETRATING THIS CRIME.

Q. THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION INDICATED THAT IN THE EVENT OF A POLITICAL SOLUTION IN NORTHERN IRELAND THAT THEY WOULD DO WHAT THEY COULD TO FACILITATE EXTRA AMERICAN INVESTMENT. HOW MUCH FURTHER WOULD THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION GO?

A. YES, BRIAN, ANTICIPATING THAT QUESTION BECAUSE REFERENCE HAS BEEN MADE TO THE CARTER PRONOUNCEMENT AND THERE MAY BE SOME MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT WHAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION SAID. ANTICIPATING THAT I DID ASK THIS MORNING FOR THE PARTICULAR QUOTE AND MR CARTER STATED THAT IN THE EVENT OF A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN THE NORTH, WE WOULD JOIN WITH OTHERS "TO SEE HOW ADDITIONAL JOB CREATING INVESTMENT COULD BE ENCOURAGED". AND CERTAINLY WE WILL NOT ONLY MAINTAIN THAT COMMITMENT BUT PERHAPS GO BEYOND IN ENCOURAGING THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO ASSIST IN THE NORTH IN CREATING MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES. I THINK WE MUST REALIZE THERE ARE NOW SOME THIRTY FIVE AMERICAN COMPANIES, INDUSTRIES IN NORTHERN IRELAND, EMPLOYING I BELIEVE ONE-SIXTH OF THE LABOR FORCE FOR AN INVESTMENT I BELIEVE IN EXCESS OF ONE BILLION DOLLARS. SO CERTAINLY WE ARE ENCOURAGING THAT NOW, ENCOURAGING FURTHER INVESTMENT ON CONDITION THAT THE MARKET-PLACE SETTLES DOWN BECAUSE WE HAVE SEEN IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, IN EL SALVADOR FOR INSTANCE, WHERE THERE IS NOT AN ORDERLY MARKET-PLACE NOT ONLY WILL INVESTMENT NOT COME IN, NEW INVESTMENT, BUT OLD INVESTMENT IS GOING TO MOVE OUT AS THE SECURITY FACTOR GOES DOWNWARD. SO ALL THE MORE REASON, I BELIEVE, FOR THE SOLUTION IN THE NORTH.  
END TEXT.

FIGG.

LIMITED

RID  
NAD  
INFO DEPT  
WED  
MAED  
NEWS D  
SECURITY D  
PUSD  
PS  
PS/LPS  
PS/MR HURD  
PS/LORD TREEGARNE

PS/FUS  
SIR A ACLAND

MR ADAMS  
MR BULLARD  
MR FERGUSSON  
LORD N G LENNOX  
MR BRAITHWAITE

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION  
NORTHERN IRELAND