

OO HONG KONG

GRS 382

UNCLASSIFIED

FM F.C.O. 271913Z SEP 82

TO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK

TELEGRAM NUMBER 780 OF 27 SEPTEMBER

AND TO HONG KONG (FOR PM'S PARTY)

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM NOW REPEATED TO YOU AT REQUEST OF DEPARTMENT

WAS RECEIVED FROM DUBLIN TELEGRAM NUMBER 267 OF 27 SEPTEMBER

AND TO IMMEDIATE N I O BELFAST

INFO SAVING BIS NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON

*Ireland**mt*NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY: STATEMENTS BY THE TAOISEACH.

1. MR HAUGHEY HAS MADE FURTHER UNHELPFUL STATEMENTS ABOUT THE NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY IN THE PAST FEW DAYS. THE IRISH TIMES OF 25 SEPTEMBER REPORTED AN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED IN THE NEW YORK TIMES OF THE PREVIOUS DAY IN WHICH THE TAOISEACH IS QUOTED AS SAYING:

"WE ARE BITTERLY DISAPPOINTED BY THIS LATEST BRITISH INITIATIVE. WE BELIEVE IT IS UNWORKABLE AND DOOMED TO FAILURE. AND AFTER IT HAS FAILED, THE SITUATION WILL BE FAR WORSE THAN BEFORE."

THE CATHOLIC MINORITY FACED THE "APPALLING" PROSPECT OF A RETURN TO ONE PARTY UNIONIST RULE.

2. MR HAUGHEY MADE A FURTHER ATTACK ON THE ASSEMBLY AT THE ANNUAL FIANNA FAIL COMMEMORATION OF THE IRISH PATRIOT WOLFE TONE AT BODENSTOWN ON 26 SEPTEMBER. AFTER SPEAKING OF TONE HE SAID:

"OVER MOST OF IRELAND THERE IS A FREE AND SOVEREIGN GOVERNMENT DETERMINED BY LEGITIMATE MEANS TO UPHOLD THE RIGHTS AND SUPPORT THE JUST DEMANDS OF THOSE WHO WISH TO BE RE-UNITED WITH US IN FREEDOM AND IN PEACE."

"TODAY WE FACE A RENEWED POLITICAL STRUGGLE IN IRELAND, ARISING FROM THE PRESENT ATTEMPT IN THE WORDS OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND SECRETARY OF STATE 'TO TIE NORTHERN IRELAND INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM' FOREVER. IN THIS PART OF THE ISLAND THERE ARE THOSE WHO URGE US TO ACCEPT AND TO COLLABORATE IN THIS FRUITLESS AND INHERENTLY DETRIMENTAL PROJECT. ON THE OTHER HAND THERE ARE THOSE WHO DESECRATE OUR IDEALS BY STEALTHY AND HORRIBLE ACTS. BUT FIANNA FAIL WILL PURSUE A STRAIGHT COURSE BETWEEN THESE TWO EXTREMES AND CONTINUOUSLY ASSERT THE RIGHT OF THE IRISH GOVERNMENT ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND TO INFLUENCE DEVELOPMENTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND AND TO PURSUE ITS OWN SEPARATE ENLIGHTENED POLICY ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES. OUR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE IS NOT FOR SALE."

3. COPIES OF THE BODENSTOWN STATEMENT FOLLOW BY BAG TO R I D, NIO/SIL AND NIO/PAB.

4. SEE M I F T FOR COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

5. FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING TO BIS NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON.