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TO PRIORITY F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 386 OF 17 FEBRUARY

INFO PRIORITY NIO BELFAST, NIO LONDON, ROUTINE CG NEW YORK,  
BIS NEW YORK, DUBLIN

MY TELNO 338: NORTHERN IRELAND: ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

1. SENATOR MOYNIHAN, THE SENIOR SENATOR FROM NEW YORK, HAS TODAY  
ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON THIS YEAR'S ST PATRICK'S DAY  
PARADE:

QUOTE WITH SORROW, BUT WITHOUT REGRET, I WILL NOT MARCH IN THIS  
YEAR'S ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE. THE PARADE'S GRAND MARSHAL HAS  
SAID THAT THIS WILL BE A PRO-IRA PARADE. AS I REJECT WITHOUT  
QUALIFICATION THE VIOLENCE OF THE PROVISIONAL IRA WHICH DOES SUCH  
GREAT DISSERVICE TO THE CAUSE OF IRISH UNITY, I CANNOT  
PARTICIPATE. I BELIEVE IRELAND SHOULD AND SHALL BE UNITED BY  
PEACEFUL AND DEMOCRATIC MEANS. I URGE CONCERNED AMERICANS TO JOIN IN  
SUPPORTING CONSTITUTIONAL EFFORTS TO EASE TENSION IN NORTHERN  
IRELAND AND END THE DIVISION OF THE IRISH PEOPLE. UNQUOTE

2. MOYNIHAN'S OFFICE HAVE TOLD US IN CONFIDENCE THAT THEY HAVE  
BEEN IN TOUCH WITH CARDINAL COOK (THE CARDINAL ARCHBISHOP OF NEW  
YORK) TO TRY TO PERSUADE HIM NOT TO TAKE PART IN THE PARADE.  
MOYNIHAN'S OFFICE SAY THAT, WHILE THE CARDINAL'S HEART IS IN THE  
RIGHT PLACE, THEY ARE NOT ABSOLUTELY CONFIDENT THAT THE CARDINAL  
HAS TAKEN A FIRM DECISION TO DISSOCIATE HIMSELF FROM THE PARADE.  
WHILE ANY OVERT INTERVENTION BY US WOULD BE VERY UNLIKELY TO HAVE  
THE DESIRED EFFECT, IT OCCURS TO US THAT A MESSAGE FROM EG.  
BISHOP CAHAL DALY TO CARDINAL COOK EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT THE  
CATHOLIC CHURCH WILL NOT BE ASSOCIATED WITH THIS YEAR'S PARADE  
MIGHT HELP CARDINAL COOK TO COME TO THE RIGHT DECISION.

WRIGHT

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