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MR BURNS
MR PN BELL

NIO

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HD/INFO DEPT

HD/NEWS DEPT

SIR R ARMSTRONG
DIO

CABINET OFFICE

PS/ NO 10 DOWNING STREET (3)

~~RESIDENT CLERK~~

14.11.

ms

UNCLASSIFIED

FM DUBLIN

TO DESKBY 191430Z FCO

TELNO 794

OF 191340Z NOVEMBER 85

INFO IMMEDIATE NIO (B), WASHINGTON AND BIS NEW YORK

MIPT: **ANGLO-IRISH AGREEMENT: STATEMENT BY IRISH CATHOLIC BISHOPS**

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT ISSUED YESTERDAY ON BEHALF OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE OF IRELAND:

'SIXTEEN YEARS OF VIOLENCE HAVE BROUGHT MUCH TRIBULATION AND HEARTBREAK TO BOTH PROTESTANT AND CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES IN NORTHERN IRELAND. THERE IS IN BOTH COMMUNITIES A GREAT AND WIDESPREAD LONGING FOR AN END TO THE TROUBLES. **IT IS OUR SINCERE HOPE THAT THE ANGLO-IRISH AGREEMENT WILL MAKE A GENUINE CONTRIBUTION TOWARD RECONCILIATION. WE ASK OUR PEOPLE TO CONTINUE THEIR PRAYERS FOR PEACE**'.

GOODISON

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