




CONFIDENTIAL

FM DUBLIN 071130Z MAY 1982

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 137 OF 07 MAY

AND TO INFO IMMEDIATE DESKBY 071400Z UKREP BRUSSELS AND IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON, UKMIS NEW YORK, OTHER E C POSTS, AND UKMIS GENEVA

MY TELNO 133: FALKLANDS: IRISH GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE 

1. THE TAOISEACH BRIEFED POLITICAL CORRESPONDENTS LAST NIGHT ON THE GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE TO THE FALKLANDS CRISIS.
2. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, MR HAUGHEY SAID THAT IRELAND'S OPTIONS WERE MORE LIMITED THAN THOSE OF OTHER E C MEMBER STATES BECAUSE OF HER NEUTRALITY. WHILE NEVER VERY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT SUPPORTING E C SANCTIONS, THEY HAD ACCEPTED THE ARGUMENT THAT SANCTIONS COULD BE INSTRUMENTAL IN APPLYING PRESSURE TO ACHIEVE A DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION BASED ON RESOLUTION 522. BUT SANCTIONS COMPLEMENTING MILITARY ACTION WERE NOT ACCEPTABLE TO IRELAND AS A NEUTRAL COUNTRY. IRELAND WOULD TRY TO MAINTAIN COMMUNITY SOLIDARITY BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT BELIEVED THAT IT COULD BE HELPFUL IN RESOLVING DISPUTES AND MAINTAINING WORLD PEACE. THEY HOPED TO PERSUADE E C PARTNERS THAT SANCTIONS NO LONGER REPRESENTED SUPPORT OF THE DIPLOMATIC ACTION WHICH WAS IN PROGRESS WHEN THEY WERE FIRST IMPOSED, BUT WOULD BE VERY AVERSE TO UNILATERAL ACTION.
3. TURNING TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL, MR HAUGHEY REPORTED THAT IRELAND WAS READY TO PROPOSE A RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD EMBRACE THE TERMS OF RESOLUTION 522, CALL FOR AN END TO HOSTILITIES IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC AND URGE THAT, AFTER A WITHDRAWAL OF ARGENTINE FORCES, A U N PRESENCE BE ESTABLISHED ON THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.
4. MR HAUGHEY WILL MAKE FURTHER STATEMENT ABOUT THE FALKLANDS CRISIS TO THE DAIL ON 11 MAY.
5. AS REPORTED IN TELECON YESTERDAY, ORR/CROW E C D (5) THE

5. AS REPORTED IN TELECON YESTERDAY, ORR/CROW E C D(E), THE D F A CONFIRM THAT MR COLLINS' BRIEF FOR THE D/D MAY MEETING WILL TAKE THE LINE ON RENEWAL OF SANCTIONS REPORTED IN MY T U R. THIS WAS ALSO CONFIRMED TO ME THIS MORNING BY THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT. THE D F A DID NOT DEMUR WHEN ORR SAID THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE, WE MIGHT WISH TO INFORM PARTNERS IN ADVANCE OF OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE IRISH POSITION.

6. MR HAUGHEY DID NOT TELL ME (DESPITE A REPORT TO THIS EFFECT IN TODAY'S IRISH TIMES) THAT IRELAND WOULD ALSO PROPOSE THAT SANCTIONS SHOULD NOW BE WITHDRAWN. NO DOUBT THE PROPOSAL WILL BE MADE, BUT ONLY FOR THE RECORD.

7. THE IRISH POSITION DOES NOT RULE OUT ACTIVE LOBBYING AGAINST RENEWAL OF SANCTIONS. THIS ASPECT IS PLAYED UP IN PRESS REPORTS HERE AND THE TERMS IN WHICH MR HAUGHEY IS QUOTED - E G "WE WOULD BE VERY AVERSE TO UNILATERAL ACTION" - ARE LESS CATEGORIC THAN THOSE HE USED WITH ME. BUT THIS IS FOR PUBLIC CONSUMPTION HERE. INTERESTINGLY THE IRISH TIMES' BRUSSELS CORRESPONDENT SAYS TODAY THAT "IRELAND NOW APPEARS WILLING TO RENEW THE TRADE SANCTIONS" AND BASES HIS REPORT ON A LUNCH BRIEFING GIVEN BY AMBASSADOR O'ROURKE TO HIS E C COLLEAGUES YESTERDAY.

8. IN VIEW OF PUBLICITY GIVEN TO THE IRISH DEFENCE MINISTER'S (NOW DISOWNED) COMMENTS LAST WEEKEND, IT MAY BE HELPFUL TO RECORD THAT IN THE DAIL ON 4 MAY DR FITZGERALD ASKED WHETHER IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE IRISH GOVERNMENT'S POSITION WAS STILL THAT "THE ARGENTINE FORCES WHO WERE THE INITIAL AGGRESSORS MUST WITHDRAW THEIR FORCES FROM THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, IN ADDITION TO WHICH THERE SHOULD A CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AND NEGOTIATIONS". MR HAUGHEY REPLIED: "THAT WOULD BE A FAIR STATEMENT OF THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES INVOLVED".

9. DESPITE THE TERMS OF THE IRISH GOVERNMENT STATEMENT OF 4 MAY (MY TELNO 124) IN QUESTION-TIME LATER THAT DAY MR HAUGHEY SAID IN REPLY TO MR BARRY (FINE GAEL): "WHATEVER OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS DECIDE ON SATURDAY, NATURALLY WE WILL GO ALONG WITH THAT DECISION. WE WILL MAKE OUR OWN PROPOSITION TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS."

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