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10 DOWNING STREET

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Subject filed in
USA Pt 3 Relations.

From the Private Secretary

20 March, 1985.

Contributions from the United States to Irish causes

In the course of her meeting with Mayor Feinstein of San Francisco this morning, the Prime Minister developed the idea that she and the Taoiseach should encourage the creation of a charitable fund to benefit worthwhile causes both in the Republic and in Northern Ireland, to which the generous impulses of Americans who wished to contribute to Irish causes could be channelled. One purpose would of course be to tap sources of the funds which are at present channelled to NORAID and divert them to more constructive purposes. The Prime Minister said that she would pursue the idea when she met the Taoiseach in the margins of the European Council on 29/30 March.

Mayor Feinstein reacted enthusiastically. She may well make some public comment.

I should be grateful if this point, worked up if possible into a concrete proposal, could be covered in the briefing for the Prime Minister's meeting with the the Taoiseach.

I am copying this letter to Jim Daniell (Northern Ireland Office) and to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

(C.D. Powell)

Len Appleyard, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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