

NORTHERN IRELAND

PS
PS/LADY YOUNG
PS/PUS
MR GOODALL

HB/RID
sp. HD/PUSD (2)
HD/INFO DEPT
HD/NEWS DEPT

RESIDENT CLERK

PS/ S of S
PS/MR R ANDREW, OAB 1/56 }
MR BRENNAN } NIO
MR BURNS }
MR J LYON }

SIR R ARMSTRONG }
DIO } CABINET OFFICE
PS/ NO 10 DOWNING STREET (3)

14.11.85

GA
3/4

IMMEDIATE

UNCLASSIFIED
DESKBY 300800Z

ADVANCE COPY

FM DUBLIN 291745Z APR 85
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 237 OF 29 APRIL 1985
INFO IMMEDIATE NIO (B)

THE TAOISEACH'S VISIT TO LONDONDERRY

1. FOLLOWING ARE EXTRACTS FROM A SPEECH TO BE MADE BY THE TAOISEACH, DR FITZGERALD, IN THE EVERGLADES HOTEL LONDONDERRY AT LUNCHTIME TOMORROW 30 APRIL:

THIS CITY HAS PAID A HEAVY PRICE FOR LONG YEARS OF DISCRIMINATION, MISMANAGEMENT AND NEGLECT IN THE PAST. NO OTHER CITY IN IRELAND HAS SUFFERED SO MUCH FROM THE APPALLING HARDSHIP OF UNEMPLOYMENT NOT JUST AT TIMES OF ECONOMIC DIFFICULTY BUT BOPNE BY GENERATION, AFTER GENERATION. NO COMMUNITY IN NORTHERN IRELAND HAS KNOWN SO MUCH OF THE TYRANNY OF VIOLENCE AND TERRORISM WHICH ARE A PLAGUE WITHIN THIS SOCIETY. BUT THROUGH ITS DARKEST HOURS THIS CITY HAS BEEN SUSTAINED BY THE PROUD SPIRIT, BY THE COURAGE, AND BY THE CREATIVITY OF ITS PEOPLE. THE WISDOM AND THE GUIDANCE OF MANY DERRY MEN AND WOMEN, POLITICAL LEADERS SUCH AS JOHN HUME AND CHURCH LEADERS SUCH AS BISHOPS DALY AND MEHAFFEY, AND BISHOP MEHAFFEY'S PREDECESSOR, BISHOP EMPEY, HAVE HELPED SUSTAIN ALL OF US THROUGH THESE TIMES OF TROUBLE.

ON THIS, THE FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT OF A TAOISEACH TO DERRY I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT YOUR CONCERNS ARE THE CONCERNS OF THE IRISH GOVERNMENT; YOUR HOPES ARE ALSO OURS AND THE VISION WHICH MANY OF YOU HAVE OF A NEW IRELAND, FOUNDED IN PEACE AND RECONCILIATION, WE ARE COMMITTED TO ATTAIN. I WISH TO ASSURE YOU ON ANOTHER POINT. IN OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, WE ARE

SEEKING TO ACHIEVE A FRAME OF REFERENCE FOR THE REVITALIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF THIS SOCIETY IN CONDITIONS WHICH ENSURE FULL RESPECT AND FULL EQUALITY FOR THE TWO COMMUNITIES WHO LIVE HERE. WE WILL HOLD TO THIS OBJECTIVE, HOWEVER DIFFICULT THE PATH MAY BE.

DERRY, THE OAKGROVE OF COLUM CILLE, A CITY OF EXTRAORDINARY TALENT AND EXCEPTIONAL BEAUTY, IS AT THE INTERFACE OF THE TWO TRADITIONS IN IRELAND. NO OTHER CITY COMBINES IN EQUAL MEASURE THE HISTORY AND THE HERITAGE OF THE PLANTER AND THE GAEL. NO OTHER CITY HAS BEEN LOVED SO WELL BY NORTHERN NATIONALISTS AND UNIONISTS ALIKE.

DERRY, WHICH HAS IN THE PAST BEEN A FOCAL POINT FOR THE CLASH OF INTEREST AND IDENTITY, CAN IN THE PERIOD AHEAD BECOME A BRIDGE TO RECONCILIATION. THIS CITY WAS ONCE A SYMBOL OF THE INJUSTICES FELT BY THE MINORITY, AND AS SUCH WAS KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. I AM CONFIDENT THAT IT CAN IN THE FUTURE BE A MODEL OF ALL THAT IS BEST IN THE NEW ORDER WE ARE SEEKING TO CONSTRUCT IN IRELAND.

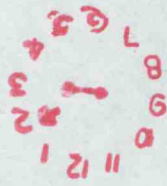
2. IN ANOTHER SPEECH TO BE MADE AT EGLINTON AIRFIELD DR FITZGERALD INTENDS TO SAY:

MY GOVERNMENT IS STRONGLY COMMITTED TO REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN IRELAND. WE INTEND TO DO WHAT WE CAN FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL THE PEOPLE OF THIS AREA. BECAUSE THE ECONOMY OF DERRY AND THE FOYLE BASIN HAS BEEN SO CLOSELY TIED TO THAT OF DONEGAL HISTORICALLY, THERE IS ALSO AN IMPORTANT ROLE FOR THE IRISH AND THE BRITISH GOVERNMENTS, AND FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, TO COOPERATE IN ASSISTING ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THIS REGION. ALREADY, THE TWO GOVERNMENTS: THE EEC COMMISSION, AND THE LOCAL INTERESTS IN DERRY, DONEGAL AND STRABANE ARE CLOSE TO AN AGREEMENT ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A DEVELOPMENT STUDY OF THE AREA. THE TWO GOVERNMENTS HAVE ALREADY AGREED THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AN INDUSTRIAL ZONE SHOULD BE EXAMINED AS PART OF THAT STUDY.

4. FCO PLEASE ADVANCE TO LYON SIL FCO

STIMSON

NNNN



30 APR 1985