

UNCLASSIFIED
FM WASHINGTON
TO DESKBY 020800Z FCO
TELNO 274
OF 020040Z FEBRUARY 94
INFO IMMEDIATE NIO(L), DUBLIN, ACTOR

GERRY ADAMS

SUMMARY

1. ADAMS OFFERS NOTHING NEW. SPELLS OUT DETAILS OF HUME/ADAMS AGREEMENT. INSISTS BRITISH GOVERNMENT CLARIFY DOWNING STREET DECLARATION. DISTINGUISHES BETWEEN DUBLIN'S ATTITUDE AND BRITISH REFUSAL TO CLARIFY. CALLS ON U.S. GOVERNMENT TO PLAY A ROLE IN BREAKING THE STALEMATE.

DETAIL

2. GERRY ADAMS ADDRESSED THE NEW YORK CONFERENCE TODAY FOR 45 MINUTES. DESPITE THE RUMOURS SPREAD BY THE KENNEDY CAMP IN ADVANCE HE DID NOT OFFER A CEASE-FIRE OR ANY NEW INITIATIVE. THE SPEECH WAS LARGELY A RE-STATEMENT OF FAMILIAR POSITIONS. (SPEECH FAXED TO NO 10, FCO AND NIO).

X 3. AFTER A LONG HISTORICAL EXEGESIS ADAMS SAID SINN FEIN HAD INITIATED THE PEACE PROCESS. THERE HAD BEEN THREE YEARS OF DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT. THE IRA HAD OFFERED A TWO WEEK CEASE-FIRE IN MAY, BUT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAD WALKED AWAY.

4. IT WAS CRUCIAL THAT THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND AS A WHOLE SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO SELF DETERMINATION. IT WAS PERVERSE TO INSIST ON A UNIONIST VETO. THE UNIONISTS WERE A NATIONAL MINORITY AND WOULD HAVE THEIR RIGHTS PROTECTED IN A UNITED IRELAND. BOTH GOVERNMENTS SHOULD ACCEPT IRISH NATIONAL SELF DETERMINATION.

5. THE HUME/ADAMS DIALOGUE HAD HELPED ADVANCE THE PEACE PROCESS. THE KEY PRINCIPLES WERE: THE IRISH PEOPLE AS A WHOLE HAD THE RIGHT TO SELF DETERMINATION: AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT WAS NOT A SOLUTION: THE UNIONISTS SHOULD NOT HAVE A VETO OVER BRITISH POLICY: THE CONSENT OF THE UNIONISTS WAS ESSENTIAL: THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT MUST JOIN THE PERSUADERS: THE TWO GOVERNMENTS HAD THE MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY TO SECURE POLITICAL PROGRESS: A PROCESS TO REALISE

THESE PRINCIPLES WAS AGREED THAT WOULD LEAD TO TOTAL DEMILITARISATION.

6. THE DOWNING STREET DECLARATION WAS A RESPONSE TO ALL THIS. SINN FEIN HAD TO ASSES THE DECLARATION. WAS IT A FIRST STEP TO PEACE OR JUST A POLITICAL MANOEUVRE QUERY. QUOTE IF THERE IS A GAP BETWEEN WHAT IS REQUIRED AND WHAT IS ON OFFER THEN WE SHOULD ALL MOVE TO BRIDGE THAT GAP UNQUOTE. THE FIRST STEP MUST BE FOR THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE CLARIFICATION. THE DUBLIN GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN FAR MORE CONSTRUCTIVE. HE COMMENDED ALBERT REYNOLDS WHO HAD TAKEN STEPS TO CLARIFY THE DECLARATION. HE EXPECTED THE LETTER TO HIM FROM REYNOLDS TO ADVANCE THE PEACE PROCESS. THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT COULD NOT COME TO A DEFINITIVE CONCLUSION WHILE THE BRITISH REFUSED TO PROVIDE CLARIFICATION.

7. BRITAIN HAD SAID NO TO THE VALUE OF ACHIEVING A UNITED IRELAND, BRITAIN JOINING THE PERSUADERS, A TIMETABLE FOR A UNITED IRELAND, JOINT AUTHORITY, ANY CHANGE IN THE UNIONIST VETO, AND A DUBLIN SAY IN THE AFFAIRS OF THE NORTH. BUT THIS WAS AT ODDS WITH THE DUBLIN UNDERSTANDING OF THE DOCUMENT. THESE CONTRADICTIONS NEEDED TO BE CLARIFIED.

8. THE U.S. HAD A ROLE TO PLAY IN BREAKING THE DEADLOCK. HE PRAISED CLINTON FOR WAIVING HIS VISA DENIAL. THEY US. GOVERNMENT COULD ENCOURAGE DIALOGUE AND AGREEMENT. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PRESENT INTOLERABLE STAND-OFF.

9. PLEASE SEE MIFT.

RENWICK

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