

CONFIDENTIAL

020616
MDHIAN 3854

CONFIDENTIAL
FM DUBLIN
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 595
OF 301700Z NOVEMBER 88
INFO IMMEDIATE UKREP BRUSSELS, ATHENS
INFO ROUTINE OTHER EC POSTS

FRAME GENERAL

RHODES EUROPEAN COUNCIL

1. THE IRISH ENVISAGE AN UNEVENTFUL COUNCIL. THE TAOISEACH WILL ATTEND.

DETAIL

2. MR HAUGHEY WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY GO TO THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL IN SPITE OF HIS RECENT ILLNESS. HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY HIS PERSONAL DOCTOR.

3. THE FOLLOWING IS BASED ON DFA BRIEFING:

A. INTERNAL MARKET. FOR THE IRISH, THE MOST IMPORTANT ITEM IS PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION OF THE SINGLE MARKET AND PRIORITIES UNTIL THE END OF 1989. THE COMMISSION HAVE PREPARED A USEFUL MID-TERM REVIEW (SEMI-COLON) THE IRISH AGREE WITH THE COMMISSION'S PRIORITIES FOR 1989 - FISCAL HARMONISATION, ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH AND FRONTIER CONTROLS. BUT THEY ARE NOT HAPPY WITH THE TWO MINOR REFERENCES TO DEFENCE (COCOM AND DEFENCE PROCUREMENT) WHICH THEY CONSIDER LIE OUTSIDE THE COMMISSION'S COMPETENCE.

B. SOCIAL DIMENSION. THE IRISH EXPECT CONTROVERSIAL DISCUSSION, BUT HAVE NO STRONG LINE THEMSELVES. THEY AGREE WITH THE PRESIDENCY THAT THIS SUBJECT SHOULD BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY. THE SEQUENCE OF GREEK, SPANISH, FRENCH AND IRISH PRESIDENCIES WILL ENSURE CONTINUING INTEREST. DISCUSSIONS SO FAR HAVE CONCENTRATED ON STANDARDS IN THE AREA OF HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK, AND ON THE EUROPEAN COMPANY STATUTE, INCLUDING WORKER PARTICIPATION. THE IRISH HAVE NOTED WITH APPROVAL THAT PAPANDREOU HAS PUT JOB CREATION BEFORE THESE OTHER ISSUES, THERE IS SCOPE FOR TACTICAL COOPERATION WITH THE IRISH ON THESE SUBJECTS.

C. ENVIRONMENT. THE IRISH DO NOT EXPECT OPPOSITION TO THE DRAFT

PAGE 1
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

020616
MDHIAN 3854

DECLARATION. THEY SEE NO NEED FOR A HIGH LEVEL GROUP, BUT WILL NOT OBJECT IF A CONSENSUS DEVELOPS IN SUPPORT. IF THE SUBJECT OF POLLUTION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN ARISES THEY MAY TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE IN A LOW KEY THE PROBLEM OF POLLUTION OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC AND THE IRISH SEA.

D. THE COMMUNITY IN THE WORLD. THE PRESIDENCY'S TEXT ON THE EC'S ROLE IN THE WORLD IS VERBOSE BUT HARMLESS. BUT THEY SEE THIS AS A LIVE ISSUE IN VIEW OF THE GATT/MTM AND THE PROSPECT OF TRADE DISPUTES WITH THE US. IRELAND IS VERY CONCERNED AT POSSIBLE US RETALIATION FOR THE EC PROHIBITION OF GROWTH PROMOTING HORMONES AND OF THE EFFECT ON THE URUGUAY ROUND OF A MORE PROTECTIONIST CONGRESS FOLLOWING THE US ELECTIONS.

E. AUDIO-VISUAL. THE IRISH HAVE NO LINE AT ALL. THEY DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHAT THE FRENCH ARE ON ABOUT.

4. FOR BILATERAL, SEE MY TELNOS 593 AND 594 (NOT TO ALL).

FENN

YYYY

DISTRIBUTION

344

MAIN

343

.FRAME GENERAL

ECD (I)

ADDITIONAL

1

FRAME

NNNN

PAGE 2
CONFIDENTIAL