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PA Pres. Campaign
in U.S.

T E L E X

28.6.88

TO HQ FROM WASHINGTON
FOR A. ANDERSON FROM M. BURKE

DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM

1. You will have seen the text faxed to you yesterday from B. Scannell, regarding the human rights section which touches upon Northern Ireland. I spoke yesterday to Liz Bagley and Chuck Mannatt, who are members of the Platform Committee, in relation to the background to this text.
2. I was told that Mayor Flynn had been pushing very hard for the insertion of some reference to Northern Ireland. He raised this personally at a previous drafting session at Mackinaw Island several weeks ago and although he was not present at this weekend's session in Denver, he telephoned and reiterated his concern to see some reference to Northern Ireland.
3. There is a strong desire on the part of the Dukakis campaign to keep the Platform statement as short as possible. It is about ten times shorter than the '84 Platform. In view of Flynn's pressure, it was decided at the very last minute on Sunday last to make a reference to Northern Ireland. Jack Corrigan, a former aide to Sen. Kennedy, who is now a senior assistant on the Dukakis campaign staff, hurriedly drafted the two paragraphs in question. In view of the Dukakis/Greek aspect, it was decided to include Cyprus. Madeleine Albright, who is one of the Chief Foreign Policy advisors to Dukakis, insisted on the inclusion of Eastern Europe and Asia. I understand that Jackson's campaign staff then insisted on a reference to the Persian Gulf and Angola. This resulted in the hastily drafted two paragraphs which were agreed to late Sunday evening. The Democratic Platform has now been completed and further changes are not expected.

W0669

PRESS RELEASE

DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM COMMITTEE
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVES MAYOR FLYNN'S
LANGUAGE ON HUMAN RIGHTS;
INCLUDES STRONGEST LANGUAGE TO DATE
ON NORTHERN IRELAND

The Democratic Party Platform Committee, meeting over the weekend in Denver, unanimously accepted language initiated by Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn concerning human rights, including an official statement of support for a US Policy seeking "human rights" and opposing discrimination in Northern Ireland. With joint support by the Dukakis and Jackson campaigns, the action by the Platform Committee, upon which Mayor Flynn served, represents the strongest language ever in a Democratic Party platform regarding the situation in Northern Ireland.

Mayor Flynn hailed the Platform Committee's adoption of the language as "historic and consistent with the strong position Gov. Dukakis has already taken on human rights and economic justice for all people in Northern Ireland. In addition, it also reflects on the support which he and Rev. Jackson have already given to the MacBride non-discrimination Principles. Clearly, in its 1988 Platform, the Democratic Party will now be on record as favouring an America that will speak with one voice on human rights, whether the victims are in South Africa, Northern Ireland or Eastern Europe".

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① ym - Box
Buxell Kevin D.

TEXT OF LANGUAGE INITIATED BY
BOSTON MAYOR RAYMOND L. FLYNN, MEMBER OF DEMOCRATIC PARTY
PLATFORM COMMITTEE CONCERNING HUMAN RIGHTS AND NORTHERN IRELAND

page 11, line 17

We believe in an America that will promote human rights, human dignity and human opportunity in every country on earth; that will fight discrimination, encourage free speech and association and will decry oppression in nations friendly and unfriendly, communist and non-communist; that will encourage our European friends to respect human rights and resolve their long-standing differences over Northern Ireland and Cyprus; that will encourage wherever possible the forces of pluralism and democracy in Eastern Europe; that will support the struggle for human rights in Asia.

We believe in an America that will work harder to stop the supplies of arms from both East and West that fuel conflict in regions such as the Persian Gulf and Angola. Deeply disturbed that the current administration has abandoned the peace process... (p. 11, line 25).