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EMBASSY OF IRELAND

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Mr. Nally ✓
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YE 12/9.
Sally 12/9

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September 6, 1991

Mr Séan Ó Huiginn
Assistant Secretary
Anglo-Irish Division
Department of Foreign Affairs

PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

Dear Assistant Secretary

I presented credentials to the President, who was accompanied by Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, yesterday afternoon. The formal exchange of (written) remarks are attached.

Immediately on introduction, the President spoke warmly of his friendship with the Taoiseach and asked that his personal good wishes be conveyed to Mr Haughey.

In a departure from what I understand is the usual practice on these occasions of steering clear of substance, the President asked for an assessment of the prospects for political progress on the North and whether he could be helpful in any way. I responded by giving a brief overview of the situation, emphasising that the North was the last complex residue of a long and unhappy history between Britain and Ireland. I added that it would now give an exceptionally positive signal to the many peoples who increasingly look to Europe (and the United States) for guidance and leadership if together we could show the imagination and courage to resolve finally our own "domestic" problem.

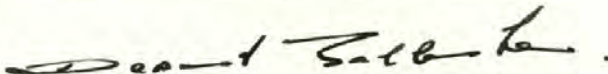
Asked about the relationship between Dublin and London, I emphasised the close cooperation at all levels, in particular between the Minister and Mr Brooke, and the very friendly and developing relationship between the Taoiseach and Mr Major. At the

same time, I took the opportunity to touch carefully on our somewhat different assessments of how to move matters forward. In this regard, I pointed out that the British (perhaps reflecting their traditional political culture) tended to see political progress being achieved through an incremental and "bottom-up" approach. While such a strategy might well be appropriate to many situations, we believed very strongly that - as two sovereign governments with the closest of relationships, including within the European Community - it was crucial that we should have a clear sense between us of what was required and how we might best cooperate to ensure that this was brought to fruition. We attached great importance, therefore, to the two governments arriving at a shared concept of the structures required and then working consciously and carefully towards building the widest possible support for our common objective.

The President, who listened very carefully to the presentation, repeated his wish to be helpful. In response, I again referred to the positive and developing relationship between the Taoiseach and the Prime Minister and their forthcoming summit. Mr Major had an open, interested and concerned approach to the issue and anything that could be done to reinforce this personal interest and commitment would be very helpful.

At the conclusion of our meeting, the President referred in very warm terms to his relationship with Speaker Foley and to the "compulsory" annual invitation he received to the Speaker's St. Patrick's Day lunch.

Yours sincerely



Ambassador

THE PRESIDENT'S REPLY
TO THE REMARKS OF THE
NEWLY APPOINTED AMBASSADOR
OF IRELAND
DERMOT A. GALLAGHER
UPON THE OCCASION OF THE PRESENTATION OF
HIS LETTER OF CREDENCE

Mr. Ambassador:

I am delighted to accept this Letter of Credence accrediting you as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ireland. I also acknowledge the letter recalling Ambassador MacKernan, your distinguished predecessor.

As you are no doubt well aware, you have a very special position here in Washington. In addition to fulfilling all the ordinary requirements of an ambassador, you act as a link between Ireland and the 40 million Americans who trace their roots back to it as their ancestral home. It is a responsibility as well as an honor, and one I am sure you will carry out with distinction.

The relations between the United States and Ireland are a complex web linking investors, traders, educational and cultural institutions, as well as ordinary citizens. As Americans become more aware of the significance of Ireland's membership in the European Community, economic ties will

continue to develop to the mutual benefit of both sides. Cultural contacts are also expanding, as Americans explore their roots and appreciate Irish contributions to the arts.

The Government of the United States has been pleased to support the efforts of the Governments of Ireland and the United Kingdom to bring peace and reconciliation to Northern Ireland and to promote improved relations between the two countries. We are glad that the International Fund for Ireland has proved so successful and will continue to back its efforts for economic and community development.

We have just lived through a momentous week in world history. Watching people who have only begun to experience democracy putting their lives on the line to preserve it provides an inspiration to us all. Countries like the United States and Ireland can be proud of their role in promoting the democratic values they share and in bringing the world closer to the day when those values will be universally respected.

I wish you, Mr. Ambassador, all the best on your arrival in the United States. There is an enormous reservoir of goodwill in this country for you and for Ireland. As we face the challenges ahead, I know that we will be able to count on Ireland's friendship and cooperation.

REMARKS OF THE NEWLY APPOINTED AMBASSADOR OF IRELAND
DERMOT A GALLAGHER UPON THE OCCASION OF THE
PRESENTATION OF HIS LETTER OF CREDENCE TO THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Mr President

I have the honor to present to you the Letter of Credence by which the President of Ireland has accredited me as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ireland to the United States of America. I also present to you the Letter of Recall of my distinguished predecessor.

President Robinson has asked me to convey, on this occasion, her cordial and friendly greetings to you personally and her best wishes for the welfare of the United States of America and its people.

The Irish people attach the highest importance to the growing relationship between our two countries in trade, in tourism and in cultural and educational exchanges, and would wish to see these progressively developed. We also appreciate the major role investment from the United States has played in developing our industrial sector. We are gratified to note that, for their part, United States investors continue to regard their relationship with Ireland as a mutually beneficial one, bringing them not only a consistently favorable return on investment, but providing a strategic location within a European Community which, after 1992, will comprise a single market of approaching 350 million people. We look forward to the further strengthening of the relationship between our two countries in this important area in the future.

My Government welcome the support of the United States for the Anglo-Irish political process and its generous funding of the International Fund for Ireland. This Fund, which was established under the Anglo-Irish Agreement of 1985, has been a particularly successful and imaginative instrument for economic regeneration and reconciliation in Northern Ireland.

I am deeply conscious, Mr President, of the high honor of being accredited as Ambassador of Ireland to this great country with which Ireland has such exceptional ties of friendship, kinship and shared ideals and where so many Irish people have been made welcome. It is a source of much pride to us to note the role played by Irish people in the building of this nation and the continuing contribution to its development being made by Irish-Americans today. During my assignment, I shall do all in my power to maintain and, if possible, to develop the traditionally close relationship which so happily exists between our two countries and peoples.

In fulfilling the mission entrusted to me, I am greatly encouraged by the knowledge that I may rely on your gracious goodwill, Mr President, and on the cooperation of your Government.

5 September 1991