HCS/8/53

FROM: SIR K P BLOOMFIELD

DATE: 16 AUGUST 1989

PS/Dr Mawhinney (B&L) - B CC Mr Fell Mr Hopkins Mr Spenge - B Mr J McConnell - B

Mrs Hutchinson

NOTE FOR THE RECORD

IRISH-AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP

Ans Matellino (3) Mil WILLE Mr John Healy, Director General of the Partnerskip in Dublin telephoned me on 15 August.

He recalled that one of the objectives of the Partnership was to encourage parties of responsible Irish-Americans to come and see modern Ireland for themselves.

It was now planned to have a high level mission visit Ireland at the beginning of November. This would be relatively brief because all those concerned would be very busy people. The party would be led by General P X Kelley, the new Chairman of their organisation in the United States, and others who would probably be coming included Judge William Clark, the investment banker Peter Haas, and Mr McSweeney of Occidental Petroleum,

He was very keen that this visit should include a trip to the North, and it looked as if the only date on which this could take place would be Saturday 4 November. He hoped that we would be willing to make suitable arrangements for receiving and briefing the party on that day.

In response I said that I thought it was rather a pity that a group prepared to visit Ireland for several days was only able to come North at the weekend, since it would be much easier to set up an entirely suitable programme on a working day. Nevertheless, we would be very glad to see the party on a Saturday rather than not at all.

Mr Healy will be writing to me with further information about this visit.

(SIGNED)

K P BLOOMFIELD

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THE IRISH AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP

3/15 31/16

14/8/50

16 August 1989

Ref: 20/7/1

a. Hes Hetchenton

N. Sir Kenneth Bloomfield Head of Northern Ireland Civil Service Central Secretariat Stormont Castle Belfast BT4 3ST

Dear Sir Kenneth

Re: Irish American Partnership Mission

The Irish American Partnership has invited a highlevel group of Irish Americans to visit Ireland between November i and November 6 1989.

This Mission will be led by the Partnership's U S Chairman General P X Kelley.

The purpose of the Mission, which is the first of a planned series, is to introduce leading Irish Americans to the development potential of modern Ireland, and to its problems, and to seek their involvement in our work.

A list of those who have accepted General Kelley's invitation to be our guests in November is attached. Also enclosed is an outline programme.

Unfortunately, the time available to our group is very limited. There are, in effect, only two 'normal' working days available.

Nevertheless, we are very anxious that our visitors have the benefit of a visit to Northern Ireland. Accordingly, I am proposing that they should travel by bus from Dublin to Belfast early on the morning of Saturday November 4 and return that evening. Although not ideal, I hope that such an arrangement would be better than no visit to Belfast.

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RESIDENT OF PERSONS ASSESSED.

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THE IRISH AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP
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THE IRISH AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP



I would be interested to know if you and your colleagues in Stormont Castle would like to take the opportunity of providing a briefing on economic and political issues to our visitors.

I have not yet designed a programme for the day but I would hope that our guests will have the opportunity of meeting senior representatives of the Industrial Development Board and the Universities as well as visiting areas of Belfast in greatest need of economic development. I would also hope to involve our Directors Sir Robert Kidd and Dr George Quigley in our Belfast programme.

I shall look forward to receiving a response to our proposal when you have a chance of examining the attached material.

Yours sincerely

Angela O'Raw

PP John R Healy Director General