

CONFIDENTIAL

111/93

ASST
SEC - 8 MAR 1993
CENT MM312/3 SEC

M: PUS
5 MARCH 1993

cc. PS/Secretary of State (L&B) - B
PS/Mr Hanley (L,B&DENI) - B
PS/Mr Fell - B
Mr Thomas *in hand* - B
Mr Bell - B
Mr Watkins *✓* - B
Mr Williams *SEC* - B
Mr Brooker - B
Mr Cooke - B
Mr Hill - B
Mr Maccabe - B

UNDER/ 325/3
SEC
- 5 MAR 1993
CENT SEC

NOTE FOR THE RECORD

US ENVOY

Our Ambassador in Washington, Sir Robin Renwick, telephoned me this afternoon (5 March) to say that the US Administration had concluded there should be no early announcement on a fact-finder or other form of envoy. The issue had been pushed back and down in terms of time and priority, and this was in part because of the marked lack of enthusiasm of Speaker Foley for the enterprise, no doubt because of the reception the idea had had, linked to his name, in Northern Ireland.

2. However, the Irish Foreign Minister seemed to be determined to refloat the idea, and this could create obvious difficulties. Sir Robin's view is that it would be worth No.10 speaking to the Taoiseach's Office to point out that if the idea was brought forward it would both create a difficult position for the Clinton Administration itself which was trying to downplay the issue, as well as intensifying difficulties with the Unionists in terms of talks.

3. He will put this advice in a telegram. I said that I agreed with it and would have a word myself with No.10 as soon as the occasion offered. I said that it seemed to me one piece of leverage that could reasonably be applied to persuade the Irish would be the need not to spoil the Unionists' reception for Mr Spring's speech of today's date.

Signed:

[Signature]

J A CHILCOT

5 MARCH 1993

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