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Both candidates avoid 'Irish issue'

President Reagan and his Democratic challenger, Walter Mondale have both avoided any reference in their campaigns to the current situation in Northern Ireland.

The Republicans and Democrats both have "Irish planks" in their party platforms, but there has been no specific reference to the planks or anything else about Ireland from the party standard bearers.

Congresswoman Geraldine Ferraro, the Democratic vice presidential candidate, was asked a question on Ireland on a recent Face the Nation program. She said she supported the proposal for a special U.S. envoy to Northern Ireland and was hopeful that the New Ireland Forum report recently published by the Irish Government would help in finding a solution to the Northern Ireland impasse. However, except for that there has been no reference to the issue in the national campaign although it has been raised in many local congressional races.

Assemblyman John C. Dearie (D-Bronx) said last Monday that the Irish-American community must look to the Democratic and Republican Party Platforms as the "only campaign reference to Northern Ireland, since neither President Reagan nor Walter Mondale will schedule an event to solely discuss future policies on Northern Ireland."

Dearie said he was disappointed "that neither campaign has agreed to schedule an event permitting the candidates to spell out their views and solutions to Irish-American leaders and our community-at-large."

Dearie has been spearheading a drive aimed at bringing about a "more active, less passive American foreign policy posture toward Northern Ireland." He had the support of a broad coalition of Irish American organizations.

The Bronx lawmaker and his supporters are for the appointment of a special U.S. envoy to Northern Ireland and the prohibition of the use of plastic bullets there.

They oppose American Government contracts to firms practicing job discrimination based on religion in Northern Ireland. They are for fairer visa policy through the State Department, and broadened economic aid to private sector firms doing business in Northern Ireland.

Dearie pressed both campaigns to speak out on the issues. He said a senior Reagan campaign official told him that when they make decisions for the President on statements or appearances, a subject like Northern Ireland may only be "slightly controversial," however, given a decision between slightly controversial and not controversial at all, we will always opt for a non-controversial position, hence there was never any serious consideration of addressing Northern Ireland.

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campaign official told him that when they make decisions for the President on statements or appearances, a subject like Northern Ireland may only be "slightly controversial," however, given a decision between slightly controversial and not controversial at all, we will always opt for a non-controversial position, hence there was never any serious consideration of addressing Northern Ireland.

Dearie indicated that the Mondale campaign had evaluated the candidate's participation in addressing Northern Ireland before several-hundred Irish-American leaders but the final decision, based on scheduling and other factors, was in the negative.

"That neither candidate will personally address the issue of Northern Ireland must be viewed as a disappointment to all who care deeply about American policy and the vital role our President plays in structuring that policy," Dearie said. He said the evaluation of the party platforms is now the "only policy source for comparison."

The Democratic Platform, plank reads as follows:

"A Democratic President will promptly appoint a Special Envoy to urge the British, as well as, the political leaders in Northern Ireland to review the findings and proposals of the Forum with open hearts and open minds and will appeal to them to join a new initiative for peace;

"We oppose the use of plastic bullets in Northern Ireland and we urge all sides to reject the use of violence;

"We affirm our strong commitment to Irish unity, achieved by consent and based on reconciliation of all people in Ireland."

The Republican Platform plank contains the following statement:

"We share a deep concern for peace and justice in Northern Ireland and condemn all violence and terrorism in that strife-torn land."

Your Vote on November 6th Can Help Margaret Thatcher or Help Find an End to Ireland's Suffering!



Mondale-Ferraro vs. Reagan-Bush Is There a Difference on Ireland?

You bet your life there's a difference!

At the Democratic Convention, the strongest statement on Ireland in half a century was adopted by delegates from across the country. It affirmed the Democratic Party's commitment to Irish unity. It committed a Democratic President to the prompt appointment of a special envoy to Northern Ireland. It opposed the use of plastic bullets in the North. It supported a ban on all transactions between the U.S. government and companies practicing religious discrimination in the six counties.

As for the Republican Platform, it contains a few nebulous lines expressing concern and condemning terrorism. *That's all!*

Consider the actions of the candidates:

- **Reagan went to Ireland in June.** It was a cynical exercise in ethnic vote chasing. The world waited for a word on behalf of the oppressed in the North. He did not once use his immense diplomatic power. It's little wonder that such a wide spectrum of Irish people felt insulted and turned their backs on him. We think, candidly, that he values his special relationship with Margaret Thatcher more than the age-old aspirations of the Irish people. Lest we forget, Reagan did not lift a finger in 1981 when ten young hunger strikers were dying agonizing deaths. A mere phone call to Thatcher might have saved those young lives. What could be clearer: **A vote for Reagan is the closest an American can come to voting for Margaret Thatcher herself!**

- **Walter Mondale, on the other hand**, is standing firm on his party's platform. His vision of the future includes progress towards unity, justice and peace in Ireland. He has built his whole career on fighting for human rights for all — he will send a special envoy, stop the plastic bullets, speak out against religious discrimination and use his office to help defend those who have suffered so long in Ireland. His running mate, Geraldine Ferraro, was Chairwoman of the Platform Committee which adopted the Irish plank. Ferraro's stand on Irish freedom is so clear that the British tabloid press has targeted her in a vile campaign of slander on the issue.

There are dozens of good American reason to vote for the Mondale-Ferraro team.

And, there's a good Irish reason to vote for them as well.

Remember Ireland on November 6th Vote Mondale-Ferraro

Paid for by the Mondale-Ferraro Campaign Committee

AMBASAID NA HEIREANN

(202) 462-3939



EMBASSY OF IRELAND

2234 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20008

From : Martin Burke,
Political Counselor,
Irish Embassy

I attach a copy of an agreement signed today by the Taoiseach, Dr Garret FitzGerald and the British Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher. The Summit communique which is also attached explains the background and objectives to this historic agreement. The agreement provides for the establishment of an Intergovernmental Conference through which the Irish Government will put forward views and proposals on many aspects of Northern Ireland affairs and both governments will make a determined effort to resolve any differences that arise. The Intergovernmental Conference will be serviced by a Joint Irish-British Secretariat which will be based in Belfast. For further information or clarification of the attached documents please contact either Martin Burke, Political Counselor, Brendan Lyons, Press and Information Officer, or Kevin Dowling, Third Secretary at the Irish Embassy. Telephone nos 462-3939, 462-3940, 462-3941, 462-3942.

Friday, 15 November 1985

AMBASAID NA HEIREANN

(202 462-3939



EMBASSY OF IRELAND

2234 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20008

ANGLO-IRISE AGREEMENT 1985

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

The Government of Ireland and the Government of the United Kingdom:

Wishing further to develop the unique relationship between their peoples and the close co-operation between their countries as friendly neighbours and as partners in the European Community;

Recognising the major interest of both their countries and, above all, of the people of Northern Ireland in diminishing the divisions there and achieving lasting peace and stability;

Recognising the need for continuing efforts to reconcile and to acknowledge the rights of the two major traditions that exist in Ireland, represented on the one hand by those who wish for no change in the present status of Northern Ireland and on the other hand by those who aspire to a sovereign united Ireland achieved by peaceful means and through agreement;

Reaffirming their total rejection of any attempt to promote political objectives by violence or the threat of violence and their determination to work together to ensure that those who adopt or support such methods do not succeed;

Recognising that a condition of genuine reconciliation and dialogue between unionists and nationalists is mutual recognition and acceptance of each other's rights;

Recognising and respecting the identities of the two communities in Northern Ireland, and the right of each to pursue its aspirations by peaceful and constitutional means;

Reaffirming their commitment to a society in Northern Ireland in which all may live in peace, free from discrimination and intolerance, and with the opportunity for both communities to participate fully in the structures and processes of government;

(2)

Have accordingly agreed as follows:

A

STATUS OF NORTHERN IRELAND

ARTICLE 1

The two Governments

(a) affirm that any change in the status of Northern Ireland would only come about with the consent of a majority of the people of Northern Ireland;

(b) recognise that the present wish of a majority of the people of Northern Ireland is for no change in the status of Northern Ireland;

(c) declare that, if in the future a majority of the people of Northern Ireland clearly wish for and formally consent to the establishment of a united Ireland, they will introduce and support in the respective Parliaments legislation to give effect to that wish.

(3)

B

THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE

ARTICLE 2

- (a) There is hereby established, within the framework of the Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental Council set up after the meeting between the two Heads of Government on 6 November 1981, an Intergovernmental Conference (hereinafter referred to as "the Conference"), concerned with Northern Ireland and with relations between the two parts of the island of Ireland, to deal, as set out in this Agreement, on a regular basis with
- (i) political matters;
 - (ii) security and related matters;
 - (iii) legal matters, including the administration of justice;
 - (iv) the promotion of cross-border co-operation.
- (b) The United Kingdom Government accept that the Irish Government will put forward views and proposals on matters relating to Northern Ireland within the field of activity of the Conference in so far as those matters are not the responsibility of a devolved administration in Northern Ireland. In the interest of promoting peace and stability, determined efforts shall be made through the Conference to resolve any differences. The Conference will be mainly concerned with Northern Ireland; but some of the matters under consideration will involve cooperative action in both parts of the island of Ireland, and possibly also in Great Britain. Some of the proposals considered in respect of Northern Ireland may also be found to have application by the Irish Government. There is no derogation from the sovereignty of either the Irish Government or the United Kingdom Government, so that each retains responsibility for the decisions and administration of government within its own jurisdiction.

ARTICLE 3

The Conference shall meet at Ministerial or official level, as required. The business of the Conference will thus receive attention at the highest level. Regular and frequent Ministerial meetings shall be held; and in particular special meetings shall be convened at the request of either side. Officials may meet in subordinate groups. Membership of the Conference and of sub-groups shall be small and flexible. When the Conference meets at Ministerial level an Irish Minister designated as the Permanent Irish Ministerial Representative and the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland shall be joint Chairmen. Within the framework of the Conference other Irish and British Ministers may hold or attend meetings as appropriate: when legal matters are under consideration the Attorneys General may attend. Ministers may be accompanied by their officials and their professional advisers: for example, when questions of security policy or security co-operation are being discussed, they may be accompanied by the Commissioner of the Garda Siochana and the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary; or when questions of economic or social policy or co-operation are being discussed, they may be accompanied by officials of the relevant Departments. A Secretariat shall be established by the two Governments to service the Conference on a continuing basis in the discharge of its functions as set out in this Agreement.

ARTICLE 4

- (a) In relation to matters coming within its field of activity, the Conference shall be a framework within which the Irish Government and the United Kingdom Government work together
- (i) for the accommodation of the rights and identities of the two traditions which exist in Northern Ireland; and
- (ii) for peace, stability and prosperity throughout the island of Ireland by promoting reconciliation, respect for human rights, co-operation against terrorism and the development of economic, social and cultural co-operation.
- (b) It is the declared policy of the United Kingdom Government that responsibility in respect of certain matters within the powers of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland should be devolved within Northern Ireland on a basis which would secure widespread acceptance throughout the community. The Irish Government support that policy.
- (c) Both Governments recognise that devolution can be achieved only with the co-operation of constitutional representatives within Northern Ireland of both traditions there. The Conference shall be a framework within which the Irish Government may put forward views and proposals on the modalities of bringing about devolution in Northern Ireland, in so far as they relate to the interests of the minority community.

(6)

C

POLITICAL MATTERS

ARTICLE 5

- (a) The Conference shall concern itself with measures to recognise and accomodate the rights and identities of the two traditions in Northern Ireland, to protect human rights and to prevent discrimination. Matters to be considered in this area include measures to foster the cultural heritage of both traditions, changes in electoral arrangements, the use of flags and emblems, the avoidance of economic and social discrimination and the advantages and disadvantages of a Bill of Rights in some form in Northern Ireland.
- (b) The discussion of these matters shall be mainly concerned with Northern Ireland, but the possible application of any measures pursuant to this article by the Irish Government in their jurisdiction shall not be excluded.
- (c) If it should prove impossible to achieve and sustain devolution on a basis which secures widespread acceptance in Northern Ireland, the Conference shall be a framework within which the Irish Government may, where the interests of the minority community are significantly or especially affected, put forward views on proposals for major legislation and on major policy issues, which are within the purview of the Northern Ireland Departments and which remain the responsibility of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

(7)

ARTICLE 6

The Conference shall be a framework within which the Irish Government may put forward views and proposals on the role and composition of bodies appointed by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland or by Departments subject to his direction and control including

the Standing Advisory Commission on Human Rights;

the Fair Employment Agency;

the Equal Opportunity Commission;

the Police Authority for Northern Ireland;

the Police Complaints Board.

(8)

D

SECURITY AND RELATED MATTERS

ARTICLE 7

- (a) the Conference shall consider
 - (i) security policy;
 - (ii) relations between the security forces and the community;
 - (iii) prisons policy.
- (b) The Conference shall consider the security situation at its regular meetings and thus provide an opportunity to address policy issues, serious incidents and forthcoming events.
- (c) The two Governments agree that there is a need for a programme of special measures in Northern Ireland to improve relations between the security forces and the community, with the object in particular of making the security forces more readily accepted by the nationalist community. Such a programme shall be developed, for the Conference's consideration, and may include the establishment of local consultative machinery, training in community relations, crime prevention schemes involving the community, improvements in arrangements for handling complaints, and action to increase the proportion of members of the minority in the Royal Ulster Constabulary. Elements of the programme may be considered by the Irish Government suitable for application within their jurisdiction.
- (d) The Conference may consider policy issues relating to prisons. Individual cases may be raised as appropriate, so that information can be provided or inquiries instituted.

(9)

E

LEGAL MATTERS,
INCLUDING THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

ARTICLE 8

The Conference shall deal with issues of concern to both countries relating to the enforcement of the criminal law. In particular it shall consider whether there are areas of the criminal law applying in the North and in the South respectively which might with benefit be harmonised. The two Governments agree on the importance of public confidence in the administration of justice. The Conference shall seek, with the help of advice from experts as appropriate, measures which would give substantial expression to this aim, considering inter alia the possibility of mixed courts in both jurisdictions for the trial of certain offences. The Conference shall also be concerned with policy aspects of extradition and extra-territorial jurisdiction as between North and South.

F

CROSS-BORDER CO-OPERATION ON SECURITY, ECONOMIC,
SOCIAL AND CULTURAL MATTERS

ARTICLE 9

- (a) With a view to enhancing cross-border co-operation on security matters, the Conference shall set in hand a programme of work to be undertaken by the Commissioner of the Garda Síochána and the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and, where appropriate, groups of officials, in such areas as threat assessments, exchange of information, liaison structures, technical co-operation, training of personnel, and operational resources.
- (b) The Conference shall have no operational responsibilities; responsibility for police operations shall remain with the heads of the respective police forces, the Commissioner of the Garda Síochána maintaining his links with the Minister for Justice and the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary his links with the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

ARTICLE 10

- (a) The two Governments shall co-operate to promote the economic and social development of those areas of both parts of Ireland which have suffered most severely from the consequences of the instability of recent years, and shall consider the possibility of securing international support for this work.
- (b) If it should prove impossible to achieve and sustain devolution on a basis which secures widespread acceptance in Northern Ireland, the Conference shall be a framework for the promotion of co-operation between the two parts of Ireland concerning cross-border aspects of economic, social and cultural matters in relation to which the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland continues to exercise authority.
- (c) If responsibility is devolved in respect of certain matters in the economic, social or cultural areas currently within the responsibility of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, machinery will need to be established by the responsible authorities in the North and South for practical co-operation in respect of cross-border aspects of these issues.

(12)

G

ARRANGEMENTS FOR REVIEW

ARTICLE 11

At the end of three years from signature of this Agreement, or earlier if requested by either Government, the working of the Conference shall be reviewed by the two Governments to see whether any changes in the scope and nature of its activities are desirable.

(13)

H

INTERPARLIAMENTARY RELATIONS

ARTICLE 12

It will be for Parliamentary decision in Dublin and in Westminster whether to establish an Anglo-Irish Parliamentary body of the kind adumbrated in the Anglo-Irish Studies Report of November 1981. The two Governments agree that they would give support as appropriate to such a body, if it were to be established.

(14)

I

FINAL CLAUSES

ARTICLE 13

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date on which the two Governments exchange notifications of their acceptance of this Agreement.

(15)

In witness whereof the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

Done in two originals on the 15th day of November 1985.

AN TAOISEACH
DR GARRET FITZGERALD

For the Government
of Ireland

PRIME MINISTER
MRS MARGARET THATCHER

For the Government
of the United Kingdom

Summary of the Anglo-Irish Agreement 1985

Joint Press Release

(Note: This summary has no legal status)

1. The Agreement begins with a preamble incorporating a joint statement of objectives.

The Status of Northern Ireland

2. The two Governments affirm that any change in the status of Northern Ireland would only come about with the consent of a majority of the people of Northern Ireland; recognise that the present wish of a majority there is for no change in that status; and declare that, if in the future a majority there clearly wish for and formally consent to the establishment of a united Ireland, the two Governments will introduce and support legislation in the respective Parliaments to give effect to this. (Article 1)

Framework and Objectives of the Intergovernmental Conference

3. The Agreement establishes, within the framework of the Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental Council, an Intergovernmental Conference concerned with Northern Ireland and with relations between the two parts of the island of Ireland which, subject to the terms of the Agreement, will deal on a regular basis with:

- political matters;
- security and related matters;

- legal matters, including the administration of justice;
- the promotion of cross-border co-operation.
(Article 2(a))

The Agreement provides for a review of the working of the Conference after three years, or earlier if either side desires. (Article 11)

4. The Conference will proceed on the basis that:

- the United Kingdom Government accept that the Irish Government will put forward within the Conference views and proposals on certain matters relating to Northern Ireland as provided for in the Agreement;
- in the interest of promoting peace and stability, determined efforts will be made in the Conference to resolve any differences;
- there will be no derogation from the sovereignty of either Government, and each retains responsibility for the decisions and administration of government within its own jurisdiction. (Article 2(b))

5. The Conference will be a framework within which the two Governments work together for the accommodation of the rights and identities of the two traditions in Northern Ireland and for peace, stability and prosperity throughout Ireland by promoting reconciliation, respect for human rights, cooperation against terrorism and the development of economic, social and cultural cooperation. (Article 4(a))

Procedures and Membership of the Intergovernmental Conference

6. There will be regular and frequent meetings of the Conference at Ministerial level as well as meetings at official level, and special meetings may be convened at the request of either side. The joint Chairmen at Ministerial level will be on the Irish side a Minister designated as the Permanent Irish Ministerial Representative and on the United Kingdom side the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. Other Ministers and advisers will participate as appropriate. There will be a Secretariat to service the Conference on a continuing basis. (Article 3)

7. The Irish Government declare their support for the United Kingdom Government's policy of seeking devolution in Northern Ireland on a basis which would secure widespread acceptance throughout the community. (Article 4(b)). The Conference will be a framework in which the Irish Government can put forward views and proposals on the modalities of devolution, in so far as they relate to the interests of the minority community. (Article 4(c)). Should a devolved administration be established, the devolved matters would not be for consideration by the Conference. (Article 2)

Political Matters

8. The Conference will concern itself with measures to recognise and accommodate the rights and identities of both traditions in Northern Ireland in such areas as cultural heritage, electoral arrangements, use of flags and emblems, the avoidance of economic and social discrimination and the advantages and disadvantages of a Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland. (Article 5(a))

9. Should it prove impossible to achieve and sustain devolution, proposals for major legislation and major policy issues where the interests of the minority community are significantly or especially affected and which come within the administrative responsibility of the Northern Ireland Departments will be for consideration by the Conference. (Article 5(c))

10. The Conference will be a framework within which the Irish Government may put forward views on the role and composition of bodies appointed by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland or his Departments. (Article 6)

Security and Related Matters within Northern Ireland

11. The Conference will consider security policy issues as well as serious incidents and forthcoming events. A programme of action will be developed with the particular object of improving the relations between the security forces and the nationalist community. Elements of the programme may be considered by the Irish Government for application in the South. The Conference may also consider policy issues relating to prisons, and individual cases may be raised. (Article 7)

Legal Matters including the Administration of Justice

12. Both Governments recognise the importance of public confidence in the administration of justice. The Conference will seek measures that would give substantial expression to this aim, considering among other things the possibility of mixed courts in both jurisdictions for the trial of certain offences. The Conference will also consider whether there are areas of the criminal law in both jurisdictions which might with benefit be harmonised and will be concerned with policy aspects of extradition and extra-territorial jurisdiction as between North and South. (Article 8)

Cross-border Co-operation on Security, Economic, Social and Cultural Matters

13. The Conference will set in hand a programme of work to be undertaken by the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and the Commissioner of the Garda Síochána with a view to enhancing co-operation between the security forces of the two Governments in such areas as threat assessments, exchange of information, liaison structures, technical co-operation, training of personnel and operational resources. The Conference will have no operational responsibilities. (Article 9)

14. The two Governments undertake to co-operate to promote the economic and social development of those areas in both parts of Ireland which have suffered most severely as a result of the instability of recent years. The two Governments will consider the possibility of securing international support for this work. (Article 10(a))

15. The Conference will, in the absence of devolution, be the framework for the promotion of cross-border economic, social and cultural co-operation. In the event of devolution, machinery would be needed to deal with co-operation in respect of cross-border aspects of devolved matters. (Article 10 (b) and (c))

Interparliamentary Body

16. The two Governments agree that they would give appropriate support to any Anglo-Irish Interparliamentary body established by the two Parliaments. (Article 12)

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ANGLO-IRISH SUMMIT MEETING

15 NOVEMBER 1985

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

1. The Taoiseach, Dr. Garret FitzGerald T.D. and the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher FRS MP, met at Hillsborough on 15 November 1985. It was the third meeting of the Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental Council to be held at the level of Heads of Government.
2. The Taoiseach was accompanied by the Tanaiste (Deputy Prime Minister), Mr. Dick Spring TD, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Peter Barry TD. The Prime Minister was accompanied by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, the Rt. Hon. Sir Geoffrey Howe QC MP, and the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland the Rt. Hon. Tom King MP.
3. The Taoiseach and the Prime Minister signed a formal and binding Agreement between their two Governments, which will enter into force as soon as each Government has notified the other of acceptance. The Agreement has the aims of promoting peace and stability in Northern Ireland; creating a new climate of friendship and cooperation between the people of the two countries; and improving cooperation in combatting terrorism.
4. The Agreement deals in particular with the status of Northern Ireland and the establishment of an Intergovernmental Conference in which the Irish Government will put forward views and proposals concerning stated aspects of Northern Ireland affairs; in which the promotion of cross-border cooperation will be discussed; and in which determined efforts will be made to resolve any differences between the two Governments.
5. The Taoiseach and the Prime Minister committed themselves to implementing and sustaining the measures set out in the Agreement with determination and imagination and undertook to encourage people of both the unionist and nationalist traditions in Ireland to make new efforts to understand and respect each other's concerns with a view to promoting reconciliation.
6. The exchange of notifications of acceptance will not be completed

until the Agreement has been approved by Dail Eireann and by the British Parliament. The two Governments intend that action to implement the provisions of the Agreement should begin once the exchange of notifications has been completed. The first meeting of the Intergovernmental Conference will take place as soon as possible thereafter. The Irish side will be led by the Minister designated as the Permanent Irish Ministerial Representative and the British side by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

7. The two Governments envisage that the meetings and agenda of the Conference will not normally be announced. But they wish it to be known that, at its first meeting, the Conference will consider its future programme of work in all the fields - political, security, legal, economic, social and cultural - assigned to it under the Agreement. It will concentrate at its initial meetings on:

- relations between the security forces and the minority community in Northern Ireland;
- ways of enhancing security co-operation between the two Governments; and
- seeking measures which would give substantial expression to the aim of underlining the importance of public confidence in the administration of justice.

In the interests of all the people of Northern Ireland the two sides are committed to work for early progress in these matters. Against this background, the Taoiseach said that it was the intention of his Government to accede as soon as possible to the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism.

8. In addressing the improvement of relations between the security forces and the minority community, the Conference at its first meeting will consider:

- a. the application of the principle that the Armed Forces (which include the Ulster Defence Regiment) operate only in support of the civil power, with the particular objective of ensuring as rapidly as possible that, save in the most exceptional circumstances, there is a police presence in all operations which involve direct contact with the community;
- b. ways of underlining the policy of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and of the Armed Forces in Northern Ireland that they discharge their duties even-handedly and with equal respect for the unionist and nationalist identities and traditions.

9. In its discussion of the enhancement of cross-border co-operation on security, the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Conference will give particular attention to the importance of continuing and enhanced cooperation, as envisaged in Article 9(a) of the Agreement, in the policing of border areas.

10. In addition to concluding the new Agreement, the Taoiseach and the Prime Minister reviewed the wide range of work being done under the auspices of the Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental Council to develop further the unique relationship between the two countries. The fact that in the past year there have been more than twenty meetings between Ministers of the two Governments demonstrates the closeness of co-operation. The Taoiseach and the Prime Minister decided that this work should be actively continued, in the interests of friendship between all the people of both countries.

11. The Taoiseach and the Prime Minister agreed to meet again at an appropriate time to take stock of the development of relations between the two countries and of the implementation of the Agreement which they have signed.

STATEMENT BY SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY ON THE ANGLO-IRISH TREATY

NOVEMBER 15, 1985

The far-reaching treaty between the Irish and British Governments is an unprecedented and historic step toward peace in Northern Ireland.

For the first time, the British Government has granted a specific -- and I might say long overdue -- role for the Republic of Ireland in the affairs of Northern Ireland. The Catholic minority in the North will have a new advocate to advance their rights, and help dispel the alienation that has led to so much tragedy and violence over the past sixteen years of the conflict.

Once before, in 1973, a major initiative was taken -- and failed. The new agreement shows that both Ireland and Britain have learned from that experience -- and Hillsborough can succeed where Sunningdale did not. This is a treaty that can work, if the extremists will put aside their prejudices and give it a chance. All of us who care about peace in Northern Ireland are encouraged by today's initiative, and we hope for its success.

The Speaker's Rooms
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Statement of Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.
November 15, 1985

THANK YOU MR. PRESIDENT FOR INVITING ME TO JOIN YOU IN EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE HISTORIC ANGLO-IRISH AGREEMENT REACHED TODAY. I AM DELIGHTED TO BE HERE.

I CONGRATULATE THE LEADERS OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF IRELAND AND GREAT BRITAIN FOR TAKING THIS IMPORTANT AND COURAGEOUS STEP OF CONSTRUCTING A FRAMEWORK FOR PEACE AND RECONCILIATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT TODAY DEMONSTRATES IN UNMISTAKABLE FASHION THAT THE WAY FORWARD IN NORTHERN IRELAND IS NOT THROUGH THE BULLET AND THE BOMB BUT RATHER THROUGH DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE FREELY ELECTED LEADERS OF TWO GREAT WESTERN DEMOCRACIES.

I AM HOPEFUL THAT THIS AGREEMENT WILL PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR BUILDING A BRIDGE OF HOPE AND RECONCILIATION BETWEEN THE TWO GREAT TRADITIONS IN NORTHERN IRELAND. WE KNOW FROM OUR EXPERIENCE IN AMERICA THAT DIVERSITY CAN BE A SOURCE OF STRENGTH IN A SOCIETY RATHER THAN A SOURCE OF DIVISION.

BEGINNING TODAY MUCH MUST BE DONE TO BUILD A LASTING PEACE IN NORTHERN IRELAND. BECAUSE OF THIS, I AM PLEASED TO HEAR THE PRESIDENT REAFFIRM THE COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO HELP PROMOTE PEACE AND RECONCILIATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND IN A CONCRETE WAY.

I CAN ASSURE THE PRESIDENT THAT AS SPEAKER I WILL DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO SEE THAT SUCH A COMMITMENT, INCLUDING APPROPRIATE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, IS HONORED BY THE CONGRESS AS SWIFTLY AND AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE. I AM SURE THAT MY COLLEAGUES SENATORS KENNEDY AND MOYNIHAN AND CONGRESSMEN BOB MICHEL, TOM FOLEY AND JOE McDADE WILL JOIN WITH ME AND THE MANY FRIENDS OF IRELAND ON CAPITOL HILL TO HELP MAKE THIS IMPORTANT AMERICAN CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE, JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND.

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(NSC/BE)

NOVEMBER 15, 1985

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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I AM DELIGHTED TO JOIN WITH SPEAKER O'NEILL IN WELCOMING THE IMPORTANT ANGLO-IRISH ACCORD ANNOUNCED TODAY BY MRS. THATCHER AND DR. FITZGERALD. WE APPLAUD ITS PROMISE OF PEACE AND A NEW DAWN FOR THE TROUBLED COMMUNITIES OF NORTHERN IRELAND. I WISH TO CONGRATULATE MY TWO GOOD FRIENDS -- AND OUTSTANDING PRIME MINISTERS -- WHO HAVE DEMONSTRATED SUCH STATESMANSHIP, VISION, AND COURAGE.

THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND OF IRELAND HAVE MADE A GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO THE POLITICAL AND INTELLECTUAL HERITAGE OF THE UNITED STATES AND TO OUR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

WE ARE PARTICULARLY PLEASED THAT THESE TWO NEIGHBORS, FAITHFUL FRIENDS OF AMERICA, SO CLOSE TO THE UNITED STATES IN THEIR TIES OF HISTORY, KINSHIP, AND COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRATIC VALUES, HAVE JOINED ON A COMMON CAUSEWAY TOWARD HOPE AND HARMONY IN NORTHERN IRELAND. ALL AMERICANS -- AND ABOVE ALL THOSE OF IRISH DESCENT WHO HAVE PRAYED FOR AN END TO VIOLENCE IN THE LAND OF THEIR ANCESTRY -- CAN TAKE PRIDE IN THIS IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD.

WE VIEW THIS AGREEMENT AS A CLEAR DEMONSTRATION OF BRITISH AND IRISH DETERMINATION TO MAKE PROGRESS CONCERNING NORTHERN IRELAND AND IN THEIR BILATERAL RELATIONS. GIVEN THE COMPLEX SITUATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND, ALL MAY NOT APPLAUD THIS AGREEMENT.

BUT LET ME STATE THAT THE UNITED STATES STRONGLY SUPPORTS THIS INITIATIVE, WHICH PLEDGES TO BOTH COMMUNITIES IN NORTHERN IRELAND RESPECT FOR THEIR RIGHTS AND TRADITIONS, WITHIN A SOCIETY FREE FROM VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION.

ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS WE HAVE JOINED THE IRISH AND BRITISH GOVERNMENTS IN CONDEMNING VIOLENCE AND DISCORD IN NORTHERN IRELAND AND CALLING ON ALL AMERICANS NOT TO ASSIST, EITHER WITH MONEY OR MORAL SUPPORT, THOSE MISGUIDED EFFORTS THAT PROLONG THE NIGHTMARE OF TERRORISM AND HATRED. OUR CALL IS EVEN MORE COMPELLING NOW THAT A FRAMEWORK FOR PEACE HAS BEEN AGREED UPON. I WISH TO RECONFIRM AND REINFORCE OUR CONDEMNATION OF TERRORISM WHEREVER IT MAY TAKE PLACE.

NOW THAT A FRAMEWORK HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED, THE WORK OF CONSTRUCTING A DURABLE PEACE MUST PROCEED. THIS WILL INVOLVE REBUILDING WHAT HAS BEEN DESTROYED BY HATRED AND VIOLENCE AND GIVING HOPE TO THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN TEMPTED BY DESPAIR. WE HAVE OFTEN ENCOURAGED AMERICANS TO LET THEIR FOREIGN INVESTMENTS AND VACATION DOLLARS, AND THE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES THAT ACCOMPANY SUCH SPENDING, FIND THEIR WAY TO THE EMERALD ISLE. I AM PROUD THAT NORTHERN IRELAND ENTERPRISES IN WHICH AMERICAN MONEY IS INVOLVED ARE AMONG THE MOST PROGRESSIVE IN PROMOTING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL.

THE BRITISH AND IRISH GOVERNMENTS HAVE PLEDGED THEIR COOPERATION IN PROMOTING THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THOSE AREAS, IN BOTH PARTS OF IRELAND, WHICH HAVE SUFFERED FROM THE INSTABILITY OF RECENT YEARS.

IT IS ENTIRELY FITTING THAT THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS JOIN THIS IMPORTANT ENDEAVOR. AS PRESIDENT CARTER SAID ON AUGUST 30, 1977, "IN THE EVENT OF A SETTLEMENT, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD BE PREPARED TO JOIN WITH OTHERS TO SEE HOW ADDITIONAL JOB-CREATING INVESTMENT COULD BE ENCOURAGED, TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL THE PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND."

THERE ARE MANY IN CONGRESS WHO HAVE SHOWN THEIR CONCERN AND SYMPATHY FOR THE PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND. AND I WILL BE WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE CONGRESS IN A BIPARTISAN EFFORT TO FIND TANGIBLE WAYS FOR THE UNITED STATES TO LEND PRACTICAL SUPPORT TO THIS IMPORTANT AGREEMENT. THE SPEAKER -- WHO HAS KINDLY JOINED ME AT THE WHITE HOUSE TODAY -- AND I HAVE ALREADY DISCUSSED HOW THE UNITED STATES COULD ASSIST IN PROMOTING PEACE, FRIENDSHIP, AND HARMONY BETWEEN THE TWO GREAT IRISH TRADITIONS.

IN CLOSING, PERMIT ME TO UNDERSCORE OUR HEARTFELT SUPPORT FOR THIS COURAGEOUS AND DETERMINED EFFORT TO PROMOTE PEACE AND RECONCILIATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND.

AND NOW I UNDERSTAND THE SPEAKER WOULD LIKE TO SAY A FEW WORDS.

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**REMARKS BY THE TAOISEACH, DR. GARRET FITZGERALD, T.D., ON
THE OCCASION OF THE SIGNING OF THE ANGLO-IRISH AGREEMENT**

Throughout these negotiations, the Irish Government's approach has been to seek ways of securing recognition of and respect for the rights and aspirations of both traditions in this island; a process which must of its nature contribute also to better relations between the peoples of Ireland and Britain.

A majority of Irish people share the aspiration to Irish unity to be achieved peacefully and by agreement. That is the nationalist position. It is obvious that the British Prime Minister and I have come to these negotiations with different historical perspectives and, as it were, with different title deeds. But we have been able to agree about what would and what would not happen in the future.

The Agreement affirms clearly that any change in the status of Northern Ireland would only come about with the consent of a majority of the people of Northern Ireland. The Agreement recognises that the present wish of a majority of the people of Northern Ireland is for no change. The Agreement goes on to say that if in the future a majority of the people of Northern Ireland clearly wish for and formally consent to the fulfilment of the nationalist aspiration, the two Governments will act to implement that wish.

The Agreement thus makes provision for the nationalist aspiration to unity in the only conditions in which constitutional nationalists seek, or would accept, its fulfilment - without violence and with the consent of a majority in Northern Ireland.

The corollary of this is that the Northern Unionist community

has for the first time a commitment in the form of an international agreement that a change in the status of Northern Ireland, such as would be involved in a move to Irish political unity, would not take place without the consent of a majority in Northern Ireland.

On the Irish side these negotiations were preceded by a process of consultation involving a review of traditional attitudes by the constitutional nationalist parties of the island, through the New Ireland Forum.

The Forum's Report provided the basis for the Irish Government's approach to this negotiation. The Agreement as it has now emerged is fully consistent with the principles proposed in Chapter 5 Paragraph 2 of that Report.

Tá sé mar chuspóir againn comh-aicneantas agus comh-urraim a bhaint amach don dá fhéiniúlacht i dTuaisceart Éireann. Féadfaigh Náisiúnaithe anois a gceann a ardú agus a fhios acu go bhfuil níos mó ná atá ar comhshéim leis an gcóras atá ag comhaltai an phobail aontachtúil agus gur léir don saol go bhfuil an scéal amhlaidh.

As I have just said in Irish, our purpose is to secure equal recognition and respect for the two identities in Northern Ireland. Nationalists can now raise their heads knowing their position is, and is seen to be, on an equal footing with that of members of the unionist community.

As a result we will be creating conditions in which the nationalist community in the North, can more readily identify

with structures of Government in a way that will help peace and stability to emerge in this island.

For the unionist community, who have suffered the most tragic and repulsive onslaught on their right to life and to well-being, this Agreement offers a way forward towards the restoration of normal life without violence or fear.

This Agreement thus involves no abandonment of nationalist aspirations, nor any threat to unionist rights; but it does offer a prospect of progress towards peace and justice for Northern nationalists, and of peace and stability for Northern unionists.

There are no victors; nor any losers. But if what has been agreed is implemented in full good faith, as I believe it will be, all of the people of Northern Ireland will gain. So indeed will the peoples of the rest of Ireland and of Great Britain, who, though not on the scale of Northern Ireland have suffered from terrorism and who, for many years have had to carry together a heavy burden of security costs, and in the case of my State have also suffered severe economic losses.

As a person with close friendships on the nationalist side and close family bonds on the unionist side I want to address myself directly to the people of Northern Ireland.

To nationalists and unionists alike I appeal:

Look at and evaluate this Agreement not as some people in both communities who are committed to maintaining divisions and hatreds, will attempt to portray it, but for what it is.