

UNCLASSIFIED

166163
MDLIAN 5402

UNCLASSIFIED

FM WASHINGTON

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELNO 2208

OF 030003Z OCTOBER 97

INFO ROUTINE DUBLIN, NIO LONDON, NIOB, BIS NEW YORK, ACTOR

SUBJECT: VISIT BY CODEL

SUMMARY

1. Recommendation that the Prime Minister should cement US understanding for his Northern Ireland strategy by receiving a Congressional delegation on 20 November.

DETAIL

2. Rep. Gilman (Chairman, International Relations Committee) will lead a Congressional delegation to Europe (Dublin; Edinburgh - for an EU drugs meeting; London and Athens) in the third week of November. His party will comprise at least 12 Congressmen, including Hyde (Chairman, Judiciary Committee) Dunn (number 5 in the Republican House hierarchy) and all the figures in the House most active on matters Irish (King, Manton, Neal, Kelly, Walsh, Joe Kennedy). They are arranging to visit London on a weekday, 20 November, in the specific hope of securing a call on the Prime Minister and Dr Mowlam - just as they will be seeing Ahern, and probably the new President, when they are in Dublin.

3. I hope the Prime Minister can set aside 30 minutes to see the delegation, and that SOSNI, too, will find time for them. They are genuinely admiring of this Government's handling of the Irish issue since May, notwithstanding their fundamental sympathy for the nationalist cause. Prime Ministerial attention now would help shape Congressional reactions to the quarrels which will inevitably develop within the talks before they reach their conclusion next May.

WRIGHT

YYYY

PAGE 1
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

166
MDLIAN 5452DISTRIBUTION

52

MAIN 24

NORTHERN IRELAND

RID

ADDITIONAL 28

.NORTHERN IRELAND
.(NIO)
CAOFF1//PS/SEC/MR FISHER
CAOFF2//MR PAKENHAM//MR FITALL
CAOFF2//ASS STAFF
CAOFF2//MR WILLIAMS J
CAOFF2//MR SANDERSON
CAOFF1//HD OD
MOD
PS/PM
PRESS SECRETARY/PM
HO//PS/HOME SEC
HO//HD TPU
HO//MS CHECKSFIELD
N SCOT Y//SUPT. B SQUAD
NIO//PS/S OF S
NIO//LORD DUBS

NIO//MR STEPHENS TPU
NIO//MS BHARUCHA
NIO//MISS O'SULLIVAN
NIO//PS/MR A INGRAM//MR WOOD
NIO//PS/MR P MURPHY
NIO//PS/MR A WORTHINGTON
NIO//PS/PUS(L)
NIO//SIR J CHILCOT
NIO//MR MACCABE PAB
NIO//MR THOMAS
NIO//BROOKER
NIO//MR LEACH
ATT GEN//MR GRANGE
ATT GEN//MR P RYCROFT
ATT GEN//PRIVATE SEC
SECURITY SERVICE

NNNN