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IRISH EMBASSY, LONDON.

~~Secret~~
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30 April 1985

cc *Tasitend*
Tonach
McDon
Mr. J. J. ...
A.S.

Secretary
Mr. Nally
Mr. ...
Mr. ...

Dear Assistant Secretary

Lunch with Peter Reams of the American Embassy

Reams covered Northern Ireland affairs in Washington before coming to London. It is one of his responsibilities here and he is currently preparing a visit by his Ambassador to Northern Ireland.

He said they cannot get hard information from Whitehall sources as to what is happening in Anglo-Irish discussions. They conclude that something serious must be on the cards and, while he did not intend to grill me in any way, said they look forward very much to hearing in due course what is being put together. He said that in his own experience they have not previously found the British to be so tight-lipped on Irish affairs as they are at present. He said that they have experienced this with the British in the past in other serious matters, and that this is what chiefly leads them to conclude that something serious is in the air.

Toward the end of our conversation he made one curious remark which seemed to be intended in a joking way: he said that we do not even put our Anglo-Irish stuff on the wires any more, and this is no way to help a friend (the Americans, presumably). I thought that this was rather indiscreet, to say the least of it, but did not make any comment.

Yours sincerely

Richard Ryan
Richard Ryan
Counsellor.