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PS/PUS (L)

FROM:

C G MACCABE POLITICAL AFFAIRS DIVISION 8 OCTOBER 1993 CC

> ASST MA 232/18 SEC -8 OCT 1993 CENT SEC

B PS/Mr Fell 340 B Mr Thomas B Mr Bell - B Mr Williams - B Mr Watkins or - B Mr Brooker B Mr Cooke - B Mr Margetts - B Mr Pellew, NAD, FCO - B HMA Dublin Mr Westmacott, Washington Mr McNeill, Washington

In hartel mis to

pola

Mr Archer, RID - B MRS JEAN KENNEDY SMITH

David Cooke sent me copies of your note of 5 October and Peter Westmacott's letter, and I have now seen Martin Williams' and David Watkins' responses.

2. Amongst Unionists, especially but not exclusively members of the UUP, there is a growing realisation that they need to do a lot more to market themselves and their political philosophies in what is at best a disinterested, and at worst a hostile, world. The monumental difficulty they face was illustrated during last night's edition of 'Counterpoint' on UTV which looked at the Unionist image through the eyes of the British media. Not surprisingly it is very poor, with Dr Paisley the malign personification of Unionism for most people. In the United States the Unionist message is virtually unheard despite the fact, as one commentator mentioned last night, the country's forty million evangelical Christians ought to be natural allies of Ulster Protestants (a possibility that cuts both ways I admit).

3. All this suggests we should not be too coy about helping Mrs Smith to establish and develop her contacts with Unionists. Consul General Martinez has already shown himself to be a sensitive and sensible operator, and like Messrs Williams and Watkins I am sure we can cooperate with him on Mrs Smith's relationship with Unionists to our mutual advantage.

[Signed]

C G MACCABE SH EXT 27085

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