**AMERICAN BREXIT COMMITTEE**

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**BREXIT, IRISH UNITY & THE ART OF THE DEAL**

On the 30th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square killings Secretary of State Pompeo publicly criticized China for crushing that “…heroic protest movement… “ and demanded accountability for those killed and detained. Surely this was a propaganda stunt in Trump’s tariff wars and no more. After all accountability and transparency are hardly the strengths of Communist regimes. If this Administration wanted to strike a serious blow for human rights instead of using the Mothers of Tiananmen as a prop, Secretary Pompeo should have given voice to the Families of Ballymurphy Victims. They have waited decades for the truth and justice promised by the UK-Ireland 1998 Belfast Treaty; an agreement the U. S. has worked hard to support.

More than empty threats directed at China, Britain’s plan to leave the European Union could be a real catalyst for promoting democracy and the rule of law. Why? The principals in Brexit consist of our allies, England and Ireland, and the EU, America’s third largest trading partner and guarantor of the Good Friday Agreement. In Trump, The Art of the Deal, the author characterizes The Donald as having a penchant for bigger being better and naming things after himself. Admittedly the deal we describe here is not Real Estate for Beginners. There are national sovereignty and political personality issues aplenty. But the elements for a political win-win are present and could make for a big deal! How big?

Britain leaves the EU with a deal that: a. returns sovereignty of six Irish counties to Ireland thus removing that financial albatross from the British taxpayer; b. gets an EU exit deal of reduced divorce liability payments; and c. provides a new EU-UK trade deal which allows a separate US-UK trade pact and introduces certain reforms of EU rules.

 Ireland would be spared the economic turmoil of a no-deal Brexit currently favored by the potential Conservative leaders. It would receive U. S. financial assistance to help with re-unification and to expedite independent public inquiries into hundreds of legacy killings by British security services. The latter fulfills a key obligation of the Good Friday Agreement and relieves Britain’s Ministry of Defense, which actually runs N. I., of the costs.

 And America? The U. S. gets: a new US-EU trade deal with relief in the auto and agricultural sectors; a new “best ever” US- UK trade deal minus favors for Russian oligarchs and TRUMP INC.; and a positive achievement in Ireland after decades of ignoring the causes of violence and injustice in N. I.. Instead of kissing up to the likes of the Saudi Arabian butcher and Rocket Man, American’s can help to restore the democracy lost in 1918 and lost again in 2016 with an EU Remain vote that has been ignored.

The good news for the President is that key Democratic leaders Eliot Engel, Chairman of Foreign Affairs and Richard Neal, Chairman of Ways & Means have staffs with the knowledge and skills to enable him to work his ‘magic.’ Oh and by the way, when the deal is done it has to be called Trump Treaty!!

Michael J. Cummings, Secretary

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Michael J. Cummings, a native of Springfield, Mass., is a graduate of St. Anselm’s College (B. A., 1968) and New York University (M. P. A., 1970) and a former member of the National Boards of the Irish American Unity Conference (1996-2013), the Ancient Order of Hibernians (2001-2008), and the Irish Northern Aid Committee (1988-1996). He served six National AOH Presidents, 5 IAUC National Presidents and two National Chairman of INA primarily in public relations capacities. He is the only person to serve on the national policy making bodies of all three major Irish American organizations. He currently is Secretary of the American Brexit Committee.