

Michael D Higgins, T.D.
Minister for Arts, Culture
and the Gaeltacht.

Ookid,
Recess P.O.
Connemara,
Co Galway.
1 October 1975

Dear Minister,

Thank you for your
letter. Re A.S.1/N.H.A. on my land.

Nothing has been done
to settle my case and I am back to where
I was ten years ago before the designation
by the C.P.W and the Department of Agriculture

I applied and got the "Rural
Environment Protection Scheme" REPS
but now the boundary of our commonage
is being fenced, with out any consultation
with me and all the sheep and cattle
will be fenced in. and my share of
the Mountain will be completely destroyed
which I cannot be a party to, and
the Department of Agriculture have
withdrawn my quota of 48 ewe premium
G126F037 to the National Reserve as you

II

know, the Minister for Agriculture claims that he is not subject to the High Court so that I cannot take a case against him and as he was informed by the O.P.W. that A.S.I. was placed on my land I am not entitled to grants. This is unacceptable to me, and as heir to Vaughan's Hotel I intend to do something about my situation.

I have mentioned to you "Vaughan's Hotel" and my involvement in the peace process. I am now distancing myself from the peace process to pursue my case.

I was to ask you formally as Minister for arts, culture and the Gaeltacht and the Minister for the O.P.W. to restore "Vaughan's Hotel". but as I had a personal difficulty with both departments I was unable to ask you. That opportunity has now passed.

The A.S.I./N.H.A. has been a disaster and legally flawed since day.

III

one and in my case has spilled over into the Peace Process which must be a tragedy since the split happened in "Vaughan Hotel" seventy years ago and the opportunity that is there now to solve that situation is now running out. "Thus so far and no further."

I made a submission to the Forum for Peace and Reconciliation on the 20th February 1995 which you should read and I attended the Forum on the 12 May 1995.

You should know that there was a "Vaughans Hotel" in every village and town in Ireland and outside Ireland such as London, New York, etc. "Vaughans Hotel" Parnell Square Dublin was the secret headquarters, the Army, Garda Síochána, and the Irish Government came out of "Vaughans Hotel" of which you are a member. The Politicians that were in "Vaughans Hotel" put their differences to one side in order to achieve our Independence

IV

it is a great pity that the politicians of today cannot do the same thing and sort out the Northern Troubles. Now that the I.R.A. have called a cease-fire and have handed it over to the politicians for a political solution.

Peace Process 5 July 1993. - 5 July 1994

(I) The Cease-fire was brought in and honoured by the I.R.A.

(II) Political Re-linement

(III) Restoration of "Vaughans Hotel" where the I.R.A. would have a home treated with dignity and their welfare looked after in a generous and civilised manner as without "Vaughans Hotel" the I.R.A. are classed as terrorists by the British Government and second class citizens by some members of our own Government conveniently forgetting where the Irish Government came out of

V

(i). (ii). (iii) were to be achieved in the first year of the cease-fire, which ended on the 1 September 1995. As with out all these being achieved any agreements are not worth the paper they are written on, Remember "Limerick"

The Island of Ireland is my Country but my home will always be Northern Ireland. My family (The McGuire's) were dispossessed of our land in Northern Ireland in times past. The McGuire's would not be party to any Government or Minister who would sell out the Northern People, Catholic or Protestant they are our people and must be part of the solution

Yours sincerely

William James McGuire