

**PHOTOCOPY  
PRESERVATION**

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American Ireland Fund Dinner  
Washington, DC  
3/16/00

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*Loretta Glucksman, President of the American Ireland Fund:*

Thank you. Although she has been harassed a bit lately on the question of amount of time spent within a specific boundary, to me and to the American Ireland Fund, Hillary Rodham Clinton has always been intent on helping to ease boundaries. From the very beginning of the Clinton administration's formidable effort towards peace in Ireland, Mrs. Clinton has sought out people from both communities, helping to ease differences and build consensus. She has worked with American Ireland Fund-supported projects with May Blood, Geraldine McAteer, Jackie Redpath, Pat Hume and Daphne Trimble, and of course, Joyce McCarten. And I know that Mrs. Clinton still has the teapot that Joyce so proudly gave to her.

Her personal initiative, Vital Voices, is an ongoing opportunity to bring more women into mainstream politics throughout the world. It is with deep gratitude that I present to you the First Lady of the United States, Hillary Rodham Clinton.

*(Mrs. Clinton makes remarks.)*

*Bertie Ahern, Prime Minister of Ireland:*

..... And we also learned that Ireland had not just one dedicated friend in the White House, but two. The First Lady has been a vital voice for peace in her own right, reaching out to many constituencies which had been marginalized, especially community and women's groups, and ensuring their enormous potential would no longer be overlooked.

And tonight, First Lady, I want to thank you for the trips and the work and the dedication in the hours spent in Limerick and Galway and Dublin and Belfast and Armagh—all of which have helped us over these years—and the huge and the enormous contribution that you've made to the Irish peace process in your own right....