

8/31/98 10:05 am

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS TO THE PEOPLE OF OMAGH
OMAGH, NORTHERN IRELAND
SEPTEMBER 3, 1998**

[acknowledgments]

Today I have returned for a second time to this land so deeply linked to my own. Today, I have come to Omagh [OH-muh] to grieve with you over the bomb that killed 28 innocent people on August 15, searing the soul of this island. And I have come to look with you toward the daybreak that always follows the blackest darkness.

When I came to Northern Ireland in 1995, I saw a place filled with promise. I came then with the conviction that a new beginning was possible. I will never forget the people I met and the crowds I saw. It was one of the finest moments of my presidency. It reaffirmed something I believe very deeply ... that our ability to talk and reason is at the core of what it means to be human.

I return today with equally firm convictions. I was appalled and angry to learn of the bombing. But I was inspired to see the people close ranks after the tragedy. We all knew there would be challenges to this peace. This was the hardest challenge conceivable. But you responded with one voice. This peace will survive. It is stronger than ever.

I have come to express my sympathy with the good people of Omagh ... the victims, their families, and the community at large. Sympathy and something more ... I want to share with you my determined refusal to let this cowardly crime rob you of the new history you chose for yourself this spring.

What happened here on August 15 was unspeakable and incomprehensible. It defied reason ... killing people told to go to the wrong place at the wrong time. It defied category, killing Catholics and Protestants, young and old, people from Northern Ireland, Ireland, and abroad ... men, women, and children ... even those about to be born. It defied the wonderful, generous spirit of 1998 ... a year in which differences were tabled for the greater good, and people spoke out with a united purpose.

It is time the few stop ruining the lives of the many. It is time those who hate stop bullying those who hope. A paradox I have never been able to solve is the fact that the most generous, kind-hearted, decent people on earth have wasted so many lives and so many centuries on a conflict that has brought no one victory or happiness. That people so accustomed to the sounds of laughter and song should find them drowned out by explosions, gunfire and sirens. That people so endowed with the gift of language should find their tongues stilled by fear and suspicion.

Even as wars diminish, acts of terror continue and even escalate. They are committed by selfish organizations with a stake in promoting murder and mayhem. Their actions are completely unacceptable. The bombing here was no exception. The authors of this atrocity were trying to kill the future. They *live* in the past. They *belong* in the past. They will *stay* in the past.

The people of Ireland have a history as proud as any people's. That bright heritage will always be with you. But the time has come to let go of your darker history. It is time for a new beginning. You are so close. You have come so far. In three short years, what was dismissed as a pipe-dream has become reality. But the people have spoken out, and in so doing, have given confidence to the party leaders, and to the rest of the world. You have renewed faith that decency can triumph over hatred ... that we humans are worthy of the great capacity for reason our Creator has given to us.

America and Northern Ireland came together in tragedy last month, when terrorism robbed both of us of our finest people. The bombings in Nairobi and Dar-es-Salaam came only eight days before the bombing here. Today we are together again, resolved to punish those responsible, to triumph over fear, and to realize our higher potential.

The greatest eulogy in my country's history was Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. A gruesome battle had just killed many thousands on both sides, including large numbers of men who spent most of their lives on this island. Many Americans wondered if we could continue as a nation. Lincoln spoke simply, and said that we had no choice ... that we *had* to go on and redeem the sacrifice, or the sacrifice would be even more incomprehensible.

We must apply that clear thinking to the events that happened here. The best way we can make sense of what happened at Omagh – the only way we can make sense of this tragedy – is to build on it.

The world will not brook a descent into terror. Not in Africa. Not in Bosnia. Not in Northern Ireland. You have come too far to watch this peace slip away. Let the worst paramilitary attack in your history be the end of one era, and the beginning of another. Let these needless deaths serve as the death knell of hatred and extremism. Let mindless violence be replaced by open-minded dialogue. This morning, the members of the Northern Ireland Assembly gathered at Stormont. I was proud to be there. This is your new history.

Life will never be the same in Omagh. But it will go on. Since the bombing, one of the victims, Nicola Emery, has given birth to a healthy baby. I pray that baby will live a long and full life across the 21st century, proud of a hometown that learned through tragedy the meaning of community.

Let me close by quoting from a letter our ambassador in Dublin received from Michael Gallagher of County Mayo.

“You don’t know me and you may not even get this letter, but after yesterday’s tragedy, I just wanted to do something. I am 29 years old and I am an Irishman to the very core of my being, but throughout my life there has never been peace on this island.

“I never realised how precious peace could be until my wife Martina gave birth to our daughter Aisling [ASH-ling] twenty months ago. We don’t want her to grow up in a society that is

constantly waiting for the next atrocity, the next bunch of young lives snuffed out in a sea of hatred and fear.

“Aisling’s name means “vision” or “dream” and we have a dream of what Ireland might be like when she grows up. Ireland could be a place where dreams come true, where people would achieve things never imagined before and where people would not be afraid of their neighbours. Hopefully this can happen, but after yesterday one has to wonder.

“... we know how much America has done for Ireland. All we ask is that you all keep trying even when times are hard ... please keep Ireland in mind because Aisling and all Irish children need to be able to dream.”

On behalf of all Americans, I pledge to Ashling in Mayo and Nicola’s newborn here in Omagh that we will work with your parents to build this peace ... to make this island not only a place where people dream ... but where dreams can come true.

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Fax Cover Sheet

Executive Office, U.S. Embassy Dublin
42 Elgin Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4

Telephone: (353) (1) 668-9374

Fax: (353) (1) 660-3217

Date:

August 20 1998.

To:

Larry Butler
NSC

Fax No:

From:

Amy Seigenthaler, Special Assistant

Comment:

Larry - The Ambassador
received the attached letter yesterday.
She thought the President might
like to quote it in one of his
speeches.

Take care and Thanks

Amy

Copy
to
Widmer
David
Halsper

No. of pages, including cover sheet: 3

Cornacool
Castlebar
Co - Mayo
16 - 8 - 98

Dear Mrs Kennedy Smith,
Me and you may not ever get this letter but after yesterday's tragedy I just wanted to do something. I am twenty one year old and an Irish man to the very core of my being, but throughout my life there has never been peace on this island.

I never realised how precious peace could be until my wife Martine gave birth to our daughter Aisling twenty months ago. We don't want her to grow up in a society that is constantly waiting for the next atrocity, the next batch of young lives snuffed out in a sea of hatred and fear.

Aisling's name means "vision" or "dream" and we have a dream of what Ireland might be like when she grows up. Ireland could be a place where dreams come true, where people would achieve things never imagined before and where people would not be afraid of their neighbours, hopefully this can happen but after yesterday one has to wonder

I just want to say thanks
to both President Clinton and
yourself for all your help and
support during this peace process
when times were hard. America
always came along and gave that
extra push.

Both my wife Martina
and myself work for an American
company, Allergan in Westport. So
we know how much America has
done for Ireland. All we ask
is that you all keep trying
even when times are hard and
even when President Clinton has
other difficulties please keep
Ireland in mind because our
Aisling and all Irish children
need to be able to dream.

yours Sincerely

Michael Gallagher

8/27/98 2:35 pm

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
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OMAGH, NORTHERN IRELAND
SEPTEMBER 3, 1998**

[acknowledgments]

Today I have returned for a second time to this land so deeply linked to my own. Today, I have come to Omagh [OH-mah] to grieve with you over the bomb that kill 28 [tk] innocent people on August 15. And I have come to look with you toward the daybreak that always follows the blackest darkness.

When I came to Northern Ireland in 1995, I saw a place filled with promise. I came then with a naively American belief that a new beginning was possible. I will never forget the people I met and the crowds I saw. It was one of the finest moments of my presidency. It reaffirmed something I believe very deeply ... that our ability to talk and reason is at the core of what it means to be human.

I return today a little less naïve ... but no less committed to the peace we glimpsed this spring.

I have come to express America's outrage and righteous indignation. But perhaps "righteous" is not the right word to use when there are already too many self-appointed experts on the subject of Ireland.

More than anything, I have come to express my simple sympathy for the people of Omagh ... the victims, their families, and the community at large. Sympathy and something more ... I want to

share with you my determined refusal to let this cowardly crime rob you of the new history you chose for yourself this spring.

What happened here on August 15 was unspeakable and incomprehensible. It defied logic ... a paramilitary attack on the wrong people, in the wrong place at the wrong time. It defied the wonderful, generous spirit of 1998 ... a year in which differences were tabled for the greater good, and people spoke out with one voice. It defied what I know to be the true heart of the people of Northern Ireland and Ireland.

A paradox I have never been able to solve is the fact that the most generous, kind-hearted, decent people on earth have wasted so many lives and so many centuries on a war that has brought no one victory or happiness. That people so accustomed to the sounds of laughter and song should find them drowned out by explosions, gunfire and sirens. That people so endowed with the gift of language should find their tongues stilled by fear and suspicion.

We have recently observed that, even as wars diminish, acts of terror continue. They are usually committed by people who, for one reason or another, find progress threatening. The bombing here was no exception. The authors of this atrocity degraded everything that human beings hold dear. They *live* in the past. They *belong* in the past. They will *stay* in the past.

The Irish have a history as proud as any people's. That bright heritage will always be with you. But the time has come to let go of your darker history. It is time for a new beginning. You are so close. You have come so far. In three short years, what was dismissed as a pipe-dream has

become reality. You have renewed confidence that decency can triumph over hatred ... that we humans are worthy of the great capacity for reason our Creator has given to us.

The greatest eulogy in my country's history was the Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. A gruesome battle had just killed many thousands on both sides, including large numbers of men who had spend their entire lives in Ireland and Northern Ireland. Many Americans wondered if we could continue as a nation. Lincoln spoke simply, and said that we had no choice ... that we *had* to go on and redeem the sacrifice, or the sacrifice would be even more incomprehensible.

We must apply that clear thinking to the events that happened here. The best way we can make sense of what happened at Omagh – the only way we can make sense of this tragedy – is to build on it.

The world will not brook a descent into terror. Not in Africa. Not in Bosnia. Not in Northern Ireland. We have come too far to watch this peace slip away. That defeat would be unacceptable. We will not let it happen. Let the worst paramilitary attack in your old history also be the last. This morning, the Northern Ireland Assembly met for the first time. I was proud to witness it. Your new history begins today.

Life will never be the same in Omagh. But it will go on. Since the bombing, one of the victims, Nicola Emery, has given birth to a healthy baby. I pray that baby will live a long and full life across the 21st century, proud of a hometown that learned through tragedy the meaning of community.

Let me close by quoting a letter written to the U.S. embassy in Dublin. Michael Gallagher, from County Mayo, wrote to Ambassador Smith:

“You don’t know me and you may not even get this letter, but after yesterday’s tragedy, I just wanted to do something. I am 29 years old and I am an Irishman to the very core of my being, but throughout my life there has never been peace on this island.

I never realised how precious peace could be until my wife Martina gave birth to our daughter Aisling twenty months ago. We don’t want her to grow up in a society that is constantly waiting for the next atrocity, the next bunch of young lives snuffed out in a sea of hatred and fear.

Aisling’s name means “vision” or “dream” and we have a dream of what Ireland might be like when she grows up. Ireland could be a place where dreams come true, where people would achieve things never imagined before and where people would not be afraid of their neighbours. Hopefully this can happen, but after yesterday one has to wonder.

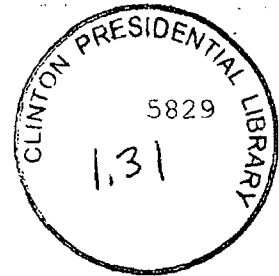
... we know how much America has done for Ireland. All we ask is that you all keep trying even when times are hard ... please keep Ireland in mind because Aisling and all Irish children need to be able to dream.”

On behalf of all Americans, I pledge that we will walk with you and work with you to build this peace ... to make this island not only a place where people dream ... but where dreams come true.

###

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with British Prime Minister Blair
(U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Prime Minister Tony Blair

Notetakers: David Higgins, Tony Campanella,
George Chastain, Jenny McGee, Chris Jansen
and Ralph Sigler

DATE, TIME August 16, 1998, 7:51-8:04 p.m. EDT
AND PLACE: The Residence

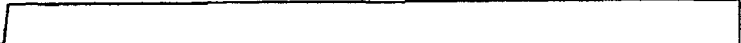
The President: Tony? (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Hi, Bill. (U)

The President: Tony. Well, I just called to tell you I was
thinking about you. You've had a miserable day. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Yes, it's pretty grim. (U)

The President: What the hell happened? Who did it? ~~(U)~~

Prime Minister Blair: 

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: Do you believe the person who gave the warning
made a mistake or did it deliberately? ~~(U)~~

Prime Minister Blair: The truth is, we don't know. ~~(U)~~

The President: Do you still want me to come? ~~(U)~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classified by: Glyn T. Davies

Reason: 1.5(b, d)

Declassify On: 8/18/08

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DECLASSIFIED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE
INTERAGENCY SECURITY CLASSIFICATION APPEALS PANEL,
E.O. 13526, SECTION 5.3(b)(3)

ISCAP APPEAL NO. 2013-090, document no. 30
DECLASSIFICATION DATE: October 14, 2015

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

Prime Minister Blair: [redacted] (C)

The President: It is probably more important now than before. You need to decide as time goes by if we need to visit the site and make a stop. (C)

Prime Minister Blair: Absolutely. I've visited some of the victims and families tonight. It was pretty harrowing. (C)

The President: Pretty tough, isn't it? (C)

Prime Minister Blair: Yes, it's an awful feeling -- completely helpless. (C)

The President: I just had to sit with all those people, with their families, who got murdered in Africa. There's nothing you can say, but it matters to them to know the leader of their country came to see them, so you did a good thing. Even if you felt like you have five thumbs. (C)

Prime Minister Blair: [redacted]

The President: Can Gerry Adams help you get these people? (C)

Prime Minister Blair: [redacted]

The President: Do you think they will? They could do more good in less time by helping you get these guys. (C)

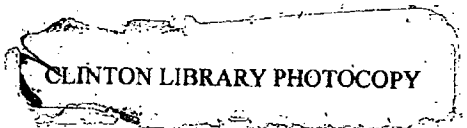
Prime Minister Blair: [redacted]

The President: Did they condemn it at all? (C)

Prime Minister Blair: [redacted]

The President: Not just Gerry Adams, but did the IRA condemn it? What do you want them to say? (C)

Prime Minister Blair: [redacted]



E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

[Redacted]

The President: If who proposes? ~~(S)~~

Prime Minister Blair: [Redacted]

The President: And they will agree? Both will agree? You would like the IRA to say, look, what happened is a part of the past, it's all over, and if the chief constables can agree on new security measures, they will support them? I'll see what I can do. ~~(S)~~

Prime Minister Blair: [Redacted]

The President: I think this is an opportunity for him, too. ~~(S)~~

Prime Minister Blair: [Redacted]

The President: I've got it. I will get on this right away. I guess I'll have to wait until morning to call them, but I'll be up late tonight. ~~(S)~~

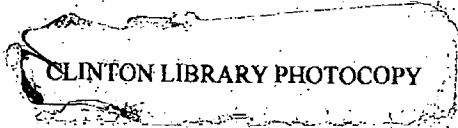
Prime Minister Blair: [Redacted]

The President: Okay. ~~(S)~~

Prime Minister Blair: [Redacted]

The President: Ninety people, 15 hardcore. Do they have a name? ~~(S)~~

Prime Minister Blair: [Redacted]



The President: All right I'll get on this. ~~(C)~~

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

The President: Okay, got it. ~~(C)~~

Prime Minister Blair: Bill, how are you? ~~(C)~~

The President: I've been up to my ass in this Africa bombing, because there's a lot more than meets the eye on what happened in Africa. If we were on a secure line, I could tell you more. But I'll see what I can do. I'll put Sandy on this tomorrow. I'll make some calls tomorrow. ~~(C)~~

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

The President: Damn right. ~~(C)~~

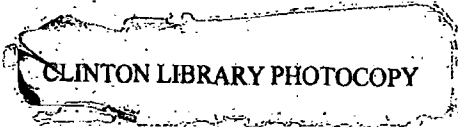
Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: If Sinn Fein really forms an alliance with the Unionists, that leaves the other group out. You'll have a localized version of what's happened around the world, where terrorists are not associated with or funded by governments. In this case, what you've got is a cell. ~~(C)~~

I don't know who's giving them money, but we're going to increasingly have to deal with terrorists with no ties to any nation-state, including Iran, if the precedent there keeps on track. But in the case of a lot of Middle East and African countries, we could be dealing with these people, like in those old James Bond movies with SPECTRE and Dr. No. We're going to have a twenty-first century version of those. ~~(C)~~

We're already dealing with drug cartels. The Colombian Army has been defeated in battle four times in the last year with narco-dealers. They do not have the physical capacity to extract these people. They don't engage in terrorism; they just kill people who get in the way of people making money. If you can



get somebody worth about 200 or 300 million bucks to operate this and earn enough money per year through stock earnings and interest accounts, and if you're prepared to spend it building an international network. (C)

Some of these guys earn enough money in terrorism and think, compared to whatever they get paid, it's more than they were making before. My worry is for all these IRA offshoots, isolated cells who were kept apart and were kept isolated from centralized control, that psychologically they may not be able to handle it. If what their real prospect is that they could lay down their arms and not go to jail and take low-paying jobs instead of terrorism, a lot of them may not be able to psychologically handle going to work everyday and carrying a lunchbox. (C)

What kind of psychological message are you sending to them? What kind of economic message? Have you had someone working on getting them college payments or job help? My worry is these people will think, "I cannot imagine leading this deadly dull life." I may be wrong, but I think these people personally cannot imagine living in a different way. If you're only dealing with 15 killers and 75 others in a support system, what thought can you give to offering them an interesting life? But I'm all into dull these days. I'm all for a little more dull. This really is a problem, Tony. (C)

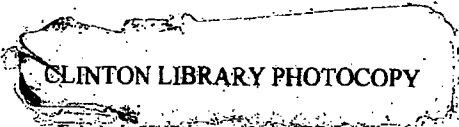
Prime Minister Blair:

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: Absolutely, and infused with meaning. You ought to have a really smart person think about the psychological and economic dynamics about how they would spend their days, and do a concerted effort on persuading them how else they could spend their days. It may be B.S., but I think it's part of the problem and is worth thinking about. You've got a lot of brilliant people over there that could figure out a psychological campaign to deal with them specifically. You don't have much to lose and you might have some benefit from it. I will do these things you asked. I'm really sorry, Tony. I'm so sorry this happened. You know, I was afraid this would happen before the vote. I was afraid they might try to kill Gerry or David. (C)

Prime Minister Blair:

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)



The President: If you could bust these guys in a hurry, even pick up just one or a couple of these guys. (e)

Prime Minister Blair: We will try to do that. (e)

The President: Okay, I'll get on this. (e)

Prime Minister Blair: Best of luck to you, too. Goodbye. (U)

The President: Thanks, man. Goodbye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

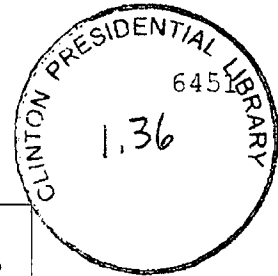
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DECLASSIFIED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE
INTERAGENCY SECURITY CLASSIFICATION APPEALS PANEL,
E.O. 13526, SECTION 5.3(b)(3)

ISCAP APPEAL NO. 2013-090, document no. 34
DECLASSIFICATION DATE: October 14, 2015



MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION.

SUBJECT: Telcon with British Prime Minister Blair

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Prime Minister Blair

Notetakers: Cindy Lawrence, Robin Rickarad,
Matt Sibley, Joel Schrader, James Smith, Don
Bandler and Lawrence Butler

DATE, TIME: September 11, 1998, 4:33 p.m.-4:58 p.m. EDT
AND PLACE: Oval Office

The President: Tony. How are you doing? (U)

Prime Minister Blair: I'm fine. I'm fine. How are things?
(U)

The President: We're doing pretty good here. That's my gut,
anyway. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: I saw you on television; I thought you
were pretty good, actually. (U)

The President: This morning? (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Yes. (U)

The President: Yes, it was pretty good. It's coming together.
(U)

Prime Minister Blair: I think that is right really. Anyway,
we're thinking of you. (U)

The President: Thanks. What's up? (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Two things. I wanted to update you on
the Northern Ireland situation. (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Reason: 1.5(b,d)

Declassify On: 9/21/08

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E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: Tell me where we are. (c)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

The President: In theory that is what they agreed to. Are they willing to do any kind of schedule? (c)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

The President: What is the main Sinn Fein argument against it? (c)

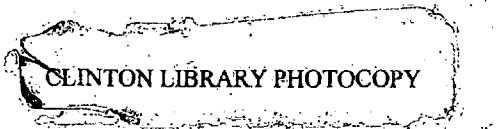
Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

The President: The IRA never disarmed and it can't look like the Unionists forcing them to do so? (c)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

The President: Well, they made a deal, though. (c)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]



E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

[redacted] The fact is there is a very good feeling in Northern Ireland right now. Your visit went very well. (c)

The President: It was wonderful. (c)

Prime Minister Blair: [redacted]

[redacted]

The President: I agree with that. Everybody is so up. The trip to the Irish Republic was unbelievable. There were 50,000 in Limerick. Bertie is in a strong position to weigh in with Sinn Fein. (c)

Prime Minister Blair: [redacted]

The President: Let me ask you something. I've been thinking about all the possible permutations and angles.

[redacted]

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

Prime Minister Blair: [redacted]

[redacted]

The President: I understand why the schedule is not enough. Then he is giving them something concrete that he can't take back and he is getting something symbolic.

[redacted]

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

Prime Minister Blair: [redacted]

[redacted]

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)



The President: Let me ask, I understand you announced that you will leave your army in the barracks while your police do the actual patrols. Are they putting any pressure on you to make a symbolic withdrawal of British forces? ~~(S)~~

Prime Minister Blair:

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

~~(S)~~

The President: Would that matter to Gerry? Jim Steinberg here doesn't think you could work a deal with him. I tried to get him to explain to me what the problem was

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

Prime Minister Blair:

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

~~(S)~~

The President: This is a big hang-up and they are not ready to cross the psychological divide. I understand and sympathize with them; I am kind of an expert in that. But they did make a deal. I wonder, it seems to me the biggest barrier was they have talked themselves into this position that is linguistically accurate, but politically unrealistic. ~~(S)~~

The deal said they would get in the Executive branch when they get the votes, and they would decommission in two years. They never disarmed, but here they would be disarmed to get something they are legally entitled to anyway. What if we could get the schedule out and there was a symbolic decommissioning, for something outside the agreement, so they would not look like they were coerced by the Unionists? ~~(S)~~

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

Prime Minister Blair:

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: Do you want me to raise this with him in a what-if way? I won't tell him I talked to you about this. ~~(S)~~

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

Prime Minister Blair:

The President: Are there any other sort of permutations or circumstances that might permit them to do it? ~~(C)~~

Prime Minister Blair:

The President: When I talked to Bertie he thought he could take those guys down that did the Omagh bombing. I thought it would be sooner. I had the impression it was imminent when I left Ireland. ~~(C)~~

Prime Minister Blair:

The President: Of course they do. ~~(C)~~

Prime Minister Blair:

The President: An actual arrest, even if it only just one person -- you've got 29 dead people there. It would be a real coup for Trimble.

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

That is the argument you could make. ~~(C)~~

Prime Minister Blair:

The President: Do you want me to raise that with him? ~~(C)~~

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

Prime Minister Blair: [redacted] (C)

The President: I'll get on it. (C)

Prime Minister Blair: [redacted]

The President: I agree. The chemistry is a lot better than what I thought. We coincidentally have a big Irish celebration here in about 30 minutes. They are applauding George Mitchell. I might nose around with some of the Sinn Fein supporters to see what I can do to nudge them a bit. These Americans still have a little bit of influence because they have money. (C)

Prime Minister Blair: [redacted]

The President: Let's explore this idea -- arrests -- plus a schedule. (C)

Prime Minister Blair: [redacted]

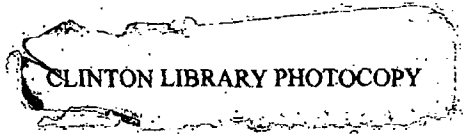
The President: I bet you anything, if you explain that the arms thing is not a big deal because they have a stash, and they are easily replaced. Whereas, the arrest of people who murdered 29 folks in a country that is so small would be a tangible act of good faith. I think disbanding the Real IRA was an act of good faith, but I am trying to work Trimble's politics around Gerry's. (C)

Prime Minister Blair: [redacted]

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: I agree. From Trimble's point of view, he is not asking for much. He is asking for something symbolic in return for something tangible. From Adams point of view, it is not such a good deal since he gets a year and a half in return for something he has a legal right to right now. Either you have to get Trimble to change by getting a different good deal, or get Adams to change. Jim Steinberg says we tried that latter course, and he didn't seem very excited about it. It might be worth going back to Adams and Bertie to see if they can't figure out how to identify who has done this. (C)

Just because they disbanded, I don't think it is enough for those 29 people, that beautiful teenaged girl who was blinded,



and the other people. They need to arrest somebody anyway. Unless whoever did this left the country, but Bertie didn't think that was the case. Let us raise this with Sinn Fein, and I will have Jim Steinberg nose around with three to four of the most influential here today. ~~(c)~~

Prime Minister Blair:

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: Let me say a word about Russia. The good news is they have a government,

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

I am glad that you are hosting this G-7 meeting and Russia will be able to be part of it. It think it would be a good idea to talk to them practically about the lessons learned from other countries with financial problems. I am going to call Yeltsin now that he has Primakov in place.

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

The fundamental problem was they privatized property without putting in place the building blocks and that created a vacuum. All the oligarchs and mafia are shipping money out of the country. They want to come back with a solution that they can put old Humpty Dumpty back together again and they can't do that. ~~(c)~~

On the other hand, it is equally true that there are international dimensions here. We have to rethink the IMF deal. It seems to me that we need to develop some sort of pro-growth strategy for the rest of the world. You have 40 percent of the world in recession now. In the end, you and I can't keep our growth going. I just want you to do anything you can to walk the Russians through this and maybe cut them a little slack on some of these macro issues, but hey, you have to build a skeleton before you can have the body of an economic power. You might want to call Yeltsin after this meeting. ~~(c)~~

Prime Minister Blair: Yeah. ~~(c)~~

The President: But, I think we just have to get their attention on what they have to do, before it ever gets better there. We need to look at it in the context of a larger settlement. We have even considered paying for their space program for a year so their scientists don't go build rockets for someone else. The scientists on the board of the space program have not been paid for six months. It is unbelievable. I know you have more than you can say grace over, but to whatever extent you can tone

up that G-7 meeting and to call Yeltsin or Primakov when it is over. ~~(S)~~

Prime Minister Blair:

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: I am going to give a speech in New York on Monday on the general outline of what we see. Deputy Finance Ministers in the G-21 have been working for over a year. We have the basis for some work. Maybe I can talk to you when you get here on the 21st. My instinct is that the G-7 should call for them to at least present recommendations to us and to get heads of state together and show some leg here. Bob Rubin continually cautions me that we don't want to unrealistically raise expectations if we don't know where we are going. ~~(S)~~

The fundamental difficulty is that you can't get out of the fact that these countries have to do certain things. On the one hand, there is incredible fluidity in capital movements, while on the other hand there is a pro-growth strategy. If they are not willing to have the infrastructure, all this pro-growth strategy won't matter. If we get them juiced up again, the money will flow out and be in somebody's Swiss bank account. It's a tough knot to untie. The IMF tried to modify their approach in Indonesia, but it doesn't necessarily work in the context of massive, breathtakingly rapid capital flow. ~~(S)~~

Prime Minister Blair:

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: I've reviewed what the G-21 people are working on. A lot of it is technical and arcane, but in aggregate it's pretty good stuff. It can make a big difference. It will remain arcane and complex and dense to the world as long as it is operating at the level of deputy finance ministers. My instinct is maybe we ought to talk next week before you come to New York and we do this conference, because maybe while we are

there we can make decisions and some scenario to elevate the visibility of this and to get world leaders involved. ~~(S)~~

Prime Minister Blair: E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d) ~~(S)~~

The President: It might help. Cardoso is cratering and is facing reelection in October. I am just sick about that. I think he will get reelected, but it will be tough. Let me do the Irish thing and you can chew on all of this. I think you should call Yeltsin after the meeting. Let's try to talk again on this. ~~(S)~~

Prime Minister Blair: Okay, Bill. (U)

The President: Thanks again. Hillary and I had a wonderful time. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Good. All the best. (U)

The President: Goodbye. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Bye, bye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

Thursday, September 3, 1998

**Schedule of the President
for
Thursday, September 3, 1998
Final Schedule**

7:00 am
[11:00 pm EST] **THE PRESIDENT** departs Marriott Hotel via motorcade en route
Vnukovo #2 Airport, Moscow , Russia
[drive time: 25 minutes]

7:25 am **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Vnukovo #2 Airport, Moscow

Greeters: Viktor Chernomyrdin, Acting Prime Minister
 Ambassador James Collins

-- **The President** and the First Lady, accompanied by Acting Russian
Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, proceed down red carpet to
plane.

7:40 am **THE PRESIDENT** departs Vnukovo #2 Airport via Air Force One en
[11:40 pm EST] route Belfast International Airport, Northern Ireland
[flight time: 3 hours, 45 minutes, - 3 hours]

TBD **BRIEFING/SPEECH PREP**
[TBD am EST] **AIR FORCE ONE**
Staff Contact: Maria Echaveste, Samuel Berger

8:25 am **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Belfast International Airport
[3:25 am EST]

**Note: Northern Ireland and Ireland are 5 hours ahead of Washington,
DC.**

Greeters: Prime Minister Tony Blair
 Ambassador Phil Lader
 Lord O'Neil, Lord Lieutenant of Antrim
 Dr. Marjorie Mowlam, Secretary of State, Northern Ireland
 Ki Fort, Consul General
 Ronnie Flanigan, Chief Consulate, Royal Constabulary
 Stanley Thomas, Chairman of the Board, Belfast International
 Airport
 Paul Keehoe, General Manager, Belfast International Airport

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Thursday, September 3, 1998

4:20 pm-
5:20 pm
[11:20am-12:20pm EST]

**REMARKS TO GATHERING OF VICTIMS AND FAMILIES
MAIN HALL
Leisure Center
Remarks: Ted Widmer
Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
CLOSED PRESS/ONLY TRANSCRIPT RELEASED**

Note: There will be 750 guests in attendance.

PARTICIPANTS
The President The First Lady Ambassador Philip Lader George Mitchell

- **The President and First Lady, Prime Minister and Mrs. Cherie Blair enter Main Hall.**
- **Prime Minister Tony Blair makes brief remarks.**
- **The President makes brief remarks.**
- **The President and First Lady, Prime Minister and Mrs. Blair greet victims and their families along a ropeline.**
- **The President and First Lady depart.**

5:25 pm

**THE PRESIDENT and The First Lady depart Leisure Center via motorcade en route Market Street Bomb Site
[drive time: approximately 5 minutes]**

5:30 pm

THE PRESIDENT and The First Lady arrive Market Street Bomb Site

**Greeters: Prime Minister Tony Blair
Mrs. Cherie Blair
John McKinney, Town Executive**

5:35 pm-
5:50 pm
[12:35pm-12:50pm EST]

**WREATH LAYING AT MARKET STREET
MARKET STREET BOMB SITE
Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
POOL PRESS**

PARTICIPANTS
The President The First Lady

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Thursday, September 3, 1998

- The President and the First Lady are escorted to site of car-bombing by Prime Minister and Mrs. Blair.
- The President unveils the plaque presented on behalf of the American people.
- The First Lady lays a floral tribute at the site.
- The President and First Lady, Prime Minister and Mrs. Blair pause for a moment of reflection.
- The President and First Lady, Prime Minister and Mrs. Cherie Blair depart.

5:55 pm THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady depart Market Street Bomb Site via motorcade en route Watterson's Drapery Shop [drive time: 5 minutes]

Note: Prime Minister Tony Blair will use his own vehicle in the motorcade.

6:00 pm THE PRESIDENT and The First Lady arrive Watterson's Drapery Shop

6:05 pm-
6:50 pm GREET RESCUE WORKERS
WATTERSON'S DRAPERY SHOP
Staff Contact: Sandy Berger
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
POOL PRESS
[1:05pm-1:50pm EST]

Note: School children and the Omagh City Council will also be in attendance.

PARTICIPANTS
The President The First Lady Ambassador Philip Lader William Daley Richard Riley George Mitchell Maria Echaveste Samuel Berger Melanne Verveer Mary Mel French

- The President and Prime Minister Tony Blair greet rescue workers, school children and City Council members along a ropeline.
- The President and First Lady lay a floral tribute at the storefront.
- The President and First Lady, Prime Minister and Mrs. Cherie Blair depart.

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Thursday, September 3, 1998

- 6:55 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady depart Market Street Bomb Site via motorcade en route Omagh Athletic Field Landing Zone
[drive time: approximately 10 minutes]
- Note: Prime Minister Tony Blair will use his own vehicle in the motorcade.**
- 7:05 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady arrive Omagh Athletic Field Landing Zone
- 7:15 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady depart Omagh Athletic Field via Marine One en route Rugby Field Landing Zone, Armagh, Northern Ireland
[flight time: 20 minutes]
- 7:35 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady arrive Rugby Field Landing Zone, Armagh
- Greeter: Lord Lieutenant of County Tyrone
- 7:45 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady depart Rugby Field Landing Zone via motorcade en route Outdoor Mall
[drive time: 10 minutes]
- 7:55 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady arrive Outdoor Mall
POOL PRESS
- Greeters: Mayor Robert Turner
 Mayoress Barbara Turner
 Deputy Mayor Tom Canavan
 Mrs. Canavan
 Chief Executive Debbie Mitchell
 Mrs. Margaret Mitchell
- 8:00 pm- **GREET RELIGIOUS LEADERS**
8:10 pm **TRAINING ROOM**
 Building #19
 Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
 Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
 OFFICIAL PHOTO ONLY
- Note: There will be 4 guests in attendance.**
Note: The President will greet Sharon Haughey prior to announce.

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Thursday, September 3, 1998

8:15 pm-
9:15 pm
(3:15pm-4:15pm EST)

**REMARKS TO "ARMAGH GATHERING FOR PEACE"
OUTDOOR MALL**
Remarks: Ted Widmer
Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
OPEN PRESS

Note: There is a pre-program.

PARTICIPANTS
The President The First Lady George Mitchell Delegation

- Off-stage announcement of First Minister David Trimble and First Deputy Minister Seamus Mallon and Mo Mowlam, Secretary for Northern Ireland (T).
- Off-stage announcement of the President and the First Lady, accompanied by Prime Minister Tony Blair, Mayor Robert Towney and Sharon Haughey.
- Armagh Girls Interfaith Choir performs.
- Mayor Robert Towney makes remarks and introduces Prime Minister Tony Blair (T).
- Prime Minister Tony Blair makes remarks and introduces First Minister David Trimble.
- First Minister David Trimble makes remarks and introduces First Deputy Minister Seamus Mallon.
- First Deputy Minister Seamus Mallon makes remarks and introduces Sharon Haughey.
- Sharon Haughey makes remarks and introduces the President.
- The President makes remarks.
- The President and Prime Minister Tony Blair work a ropeline and depart.

9:25 pm

THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady depart Outdoor Mall via motorcade en route Rugby Field Landing Zone, Armagh [drive time: 10 minutes]

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Thursday, September 3, 1998

- 9:35 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady arrive Rugby Field Landing Zone
- Note: The Prime Minister and Mrs. Cherie Blair will bid farewell at this time.**
- 9:45 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady depart Rugby Field Landing Zone via Marine One en route Phoenix Landing Zone, Dublin, Ireland [flight time: 40 minutes]
- 10:25 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady arrive Phoenix Park Landing Zone
- Greeters: Taoiseach Bertie Ahern
 Celia Larkin
 Deputy Prime Minister Mary Harney
 Foreign Minister Andrews
 Mrs. Andrews
 Sean O'Huiginn, Ambassador to the United States
 Mrs. O'Huiginn
 Ambassador Jean Kennedy-Smith
 Antoin Mac Unfraith, Chief of Protocol
 Eamonn Moran, General Manager, Dublin Airport
- 10:35 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady depart Phoenix Park Landing Zone via motorcade en route Ambassador's Residence [drive time: 5 minutes]
- 10:40 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady arrive Ambassador's Residence
- BC/HRC RON AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE
 DUBLIN, IRELAND**

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Thursday, September 3, 1998

8:40 am THE PRESIDENT departs Belfast International Airport via motorcade en route Parliament Building
[drive time: 30 minutes]

Note: Prime Minister Tony Blair will use his own vehicle in the motorcade.

9:10 am THE PRESIDENT arrives Parliament Building
POOL PRESS

Greeters: Prime Minister Tony Blair
David Trimble, First Minister, Northern Ireland Assembly
Seamus Mallon, Deputy First Minister, Northern Ireland Assembly

- The President greets Prime Minister Tony Blair at the bottom of the steps and they proceed together to second landing to greet Mr. Trimble and Mr. Mallon.
- The President, accompanied by Prime Minister Blair, Mr. Trimble, and Mr. Mallon proceed to top of stairs, pause for a photograph and proceed into room.
- The President is greeted by Lord Alderdice and signs the guest book.

9:15 am
9:35 am
[4:15 am-4:35 am EST]

MEETING WITH FIRST MINISTER DAVID TRIMBLE AND
DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER SEAMUS MALLON
ROOM #106
Parliament Building
Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
OFFICIAL PHOTO ONLY

United States	Northern Ireland	Great Britain
The President Maria Echaveste Samuel Berger James Steinberg	David Trimble Seamus Mallon	Prime Minister Tony Blair Mo Mowlam John Holmes Jonathan Powell Alister Campbell

- The President proceeds to Room #106 for meeting.
- Upon conclusion of meeting, the President proceeds to Hallway and greets the United States Congressional Delegation.

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Thursday, September 3, 1998

9:40 am-
9:45 am
[4:40 am-4:45 am EST]

**GREET UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION
HALLWAY**

Parliament Building

Staff Contact: Samuel Berger, Larry Stein

Event Coordinator: Laura Graham

OFFICIAL PHOTO ONLY

PARTICIPANTS
The President
Ambassador Philip Lader
Maria Echaveste
William Daley
Richard Riley
George Mitchell
Members of Congress
Ki Fort, Consul General
Antony Blinken
Larry Butler
Jim Lyons

-- After greeting the Delegation, the President proceeds to meet and greet Northern Ireland Assembly members.

Note: Members of the United States Congressional Delegation follow the President into Room 119.

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Thursday, September 3, 1998

9:50 am-
10:50 am
[4:50 am-5:50 am EST]

GREET NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY MEMBERS
ROOM 119, LONG GALLERY
Parliament Building
Remarks: David Halperin
Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
OFFICIAL PHOTO ONLY/HOST TV (AT THE TOP)

Note: The Host TV will only be present for the first pod.

PARTICIPANTS
The President
Ambassador Philip Lader
Maria Echaveste
Ki Furt, Consul General
William Daley
Richard Riley
George Mitchell
Members of Congress
Samuel Berger
James Steinberg
Jim Lyons
Larry Butler (notetaker)

- On-stage announcement of the **President**, accompanied by Prime Minister Tony Blair, by the Lord Alderdice.
- **The President** and Prime Minister Tony Blair meet and greet with Assembly Members separately.
- Lord Alderdice thanks the **President** and Prime Minister Tony Blair.
- **The President** and Prime Minister Tony Blair depart.

Note: After the President departs the bulding, Members of the Assembly and the United States Delegation depart the Parliament Building and board buses for Waterfront Hall.

11:05 am

THE PRESIDENT departs Parliament Building en route Waterfront Hall
[drive time: 10 minutes]

Note: Prime Minister Tony Blair will use his own vehicle in the motorcade.

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Thursday, September 3, 1998

11:15 am

**THE PRESIDENT arrives Waterfront Hall
POOL PRESS**

Note: There will be 500 guests outside on arrival.

Note: Staff members will hold in the motorcade until the President proceeds inside.

Greeters: Prime Minister Tony Blair
Lord Mayor David Alderdice, City of Belfast
James Elliot Wilson, Lord Lieutenant Colonel of Belfast
Sheriff of Belfast

-- The President proceeds inside and signs the guest book.

11:20 am-

11:35 am

[6:20 am-6:35 am EST]

MEET AND GREET WITH JOHN HUME

BT STUDIO

Waterfront Hall

Staff Contact: Samuel Berger

Event Coordinator: Laura Graham

OFFICIAL PHOTO ONLY

Note: There will be 14 guests in attendance.

PARTICIPANTS
The President
Ambassador Phillip Lader
Ki Fort
William Daley
Richard Riley
Maria Echaveste
Samuel Berger
James Steinberg

-- Upon conclusion of meet and greet, the President proceeds to holding room.

11:40 am-

11:50 am

HOLD

WATERFRONT HALL

Note: This hold is necessary to allow assembly and delegation members additional time to arrive in a separate motorcade and take their seats.

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Thursday, September 3, 1998

12:00 pm-
1:00 pm
[7:00 am-8:00 am EST]

**ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE AND ASSEMBLY OF NORTHERN
IRELAND**

MAIN AUDITORIUM

Waterfront Hall

Remarks: Antony Blinken

Staff Contact: Samuel Berger

Event Coordinator: Laura Graham

OPEN PRESS

Note: There will be approximately 1,800 guests in attendance.

PARTICIPANTS
The President
The First Lady
Ambassador Phillip Loder
Ki Fort
William Daley
Richard Daley
George Mitchell
Members of Congress
Maria Echaveste
Samuel Berger
Michael McCurry
Doug Sosnik
Melanne Vermeer
Marsha Berry
Charles Braun
Joe Lockhart
James Steinberg
Rona Friberg
Antony Blinken

- On-stage announcement of the President, Prime Minister Tony Blair, David Trimble, Seamus Mallon, and Lord Mayor David Alderdice.
- Lord Mayor David Alderdice makes brief welcoming remarks and introduces Prime Minister Tony Blair.
- Prime Minister Tony Blair makes brief welcoming remarks and introduces Seamus Mallon.
- Seamus Mallon makes brief welcoming remarks and introduces David Trimble.
- David Trimble makes brief remarks and introduces the President
- The President makes remarks, works a ropeline and departs.

1:15 pm

THE PRESIDENT departs Waterfront Hall en route Springvale Educational Village
[drive time: 20 minutes]

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Thursday, September 3, 1998

1:35 pm

THE PRESIDENT arrives Springvale Educational Village

Greeters: Professor Trevor Smith, Vice Chancellor, University of Ulster
Professor Patrick Murphy, Chairman, Belfast Institute of
Higher Education

1:40 pm-

2:25 pm

[8:40 am-9:25 am EST]

UNIVERSITY GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY

OUTDOOR TENT

Springvale Educational Village

Remarks: David Halperin

Staff Contact: Samuel Berger

Event Coordinator: Laura Graham

POOL PRESS

Note: There is a pre-program.

Note: There will be 150 guests in attendance.

PARTICIPANTS
The President
The First Lady
Ambassador Philip Lader
Ki Fort
William Daley
Richard Riley
George Mitchell
Members of Congress
George Mitchell
Maria Echaveste
Samuel Berger
Michael McCurry
Doug Sosuk
Melanne Verveer
Kitty Higgins
Mary Mel French
Nancy Soderberg
James Lyons
Anthony Wayne
Marsha Berry
Charles Brain
Joe Lockhart
James Steinberg
Rona Freiberg
Antony Blinken

February 9, 1999 (9:28am)

Thursday, September 3, 1998

- Off-stage announcement of Mo Mowlam, Secretary for Northern Ireland, Lord Trevor Smith, Vice Chancellor, University of Ulster, and Professor Patrick Murphy, Chairman, Belfast Institute of Higher Education.
- Off-stage announcement of the President and the First Lady, accompanied by Prime Minister and Mrs. Blair, Gerrard Quinn, Student and Margaret Giverney, Student.
- Mo Mowlam makes brief remarks and introduces the First Lady
- The First Lady makes brief remarks and introduces Gerrard Quinn.
- Gerrard Quinn introduces Prime Minister Tony Blair.
- Prime Minister Tony Blair makes remarks and introduces Margaret Giverney.
- Margaret Giverney introduces the President.
- The President makes remarks.
- The President, Prime Minister Tony Blair, Gerrard Quinn and Margaret Giverney, proceed off-stage.
- The students begin the groundbreaking.
- The President and Prime Minister Tony Blair reveal plaque.
- The President and Prime Minister Tony Blair work a ropeline and depart.

Note: Upon conclusion of remarks, the Congressional and Cabinet Delegation will proceed via bus to Armagh for separate schedule.

2:35 pm-
2:45 pm

**GREET VIP STAGE PARTICIPANTS
BACKSTAGE AREA
Springvale Educational Village
Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
OFFICIAL PHOTO ONLY**

Note: There will be 10 guests in attendance.

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Thursday, September 3, 1998

- 2:50 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady depart Springvale Educational Facility via motorcade en route Belfast Airport
[drive time: 10 minutes]
- Note: Prime Minister Tony Blair will use his own vehicle in the motorcade.**
- 3:00 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady arrive Belfast Airport
- Note: The President will greet 30 Embassy/Consulate Staff and their families on the tarmac.**
- 3:20 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady depart Belfast Airport via Marine One en route Omagh Athletic Field Landing Zone, Omagh, Northern Ireland
[flight time: 35 minutes]
- 3:55 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady arrive Omagh Athletic Field Landing Zone
- Greeters: Lord Lieutenant Duke of Abrecom
 Duchess of Abrecom
- 4:05 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady depart Omagh Athletic Field Landing Zone via motorcade en route Leisure Center
[drive time: 10 minutes]
- 4:15 pm **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady arrive Leisure Center
- Greeters: Prime Minister Tony Blair
 Mrs. Cherie Blair
 Mayor of Omagh
 Vice Chair, Omagh Town Council

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Friday, September 4, 1998

**Schedule of the President
for
Friday, September 4, 1998
Final Schedule**

9:30 am-
9:45 am
[4:30 am-4:45 am EST]

BRIEFING
DINING ROOM
Ambassador's Residence
Staff Contact: Maria Echaveste

9:45 am-
10:15 am

BRIEFING
DINING ROOM
Ambassador's Residence
Staff Contact: Samuel Berger

10:20 am

THE PRESIDENT departs Ambassador's Residence via motorcade en route Government Buildings
[drive time: 20 minutes]

10:40 am

THE PRESIDENT arrives Government Buildings
POOL PRESS

Greeter: Taoiseach Bertie Ahern

10:45 am-
10:55 am
[5:45 am-5:55 am EST]

GREET IRISH TAOISEACH BERTIE AHERN
TAOISEACH AHERN'S OFFICE
Government Buildings
Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
POOL SPRAY (AT THE TOP)

United States	Ireland
The President	Taoiseach Bertie Ahern

- The President proceeds upstairs to Taoiseach Ahern's office.
- The President signs the guest book and pauses for a photograph with Taoiseach Ahern.

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Friday, September 4, 1998

11:00 am-
11:30 am
[6:00 am-6:30 am EST]

MEETING WITH IRISH TAOISEACH BERTIE AHERN
CONFERENCE ROOM
Government Buildings
Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
OFFICIAL PHOTO ONLY

PARTICIPANTS
The President Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith Sec. Richard Riley Sec. William Daley George Mitchell Maria Echaveste Samuel Berger James Steinberg Larry Butler (note taker)

Note: Prior to departure, the President will greet approximately 15 members of Taoiseach Ahern's staff.

11:45 am

THE PRESIDENT departs Government Offices via motorcade en route Royal College of Surgeons
[drive time: 5 minutes]

11:55 am

THE PRESIDENT arrives Royal College of Surgeons

Greeter: Barry O'Donnell, President, Royal College of Surgeons

Note: The First Lady will rejoin the President at this time.

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Friday, September 4, 1998

12:00 pm-
12:30 pm
(7:00 am-7:30 am LST)

**BRIEF REMARKS TO LUNCH RECEPTION
CONFERENCE ROOM**

Royal College of Surgeons
Remarks: Ted Widmer
Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
POOL PRESS

Note: Remarks will be fed into College Hall for lunch guests.

Note: There will be 500 guests in attendance.

Note: The Lunch Reception requires business attire.

PARTICIPANTS
The President The First Lady

- .. On-stage announcement of the **President** and the **First Lady**, accompanied by Taoiseach Bertie Ahern and Celia Larkin.
- .. Taoiseach Bertie Ahern makes brief remarks and introduces the **President**.
- **The President** makes brief remarks.
- .. **The President** and Taoiseach Bertie Ahern work a ropeline and depart.

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Friday, September 4, 1998

12:45 pm-
2:15 pm
[7:45 am-9:15 am EST]

**LUNCH WITH IRISH TAOISEACH BERTIE AHERN
COLLEGE HALL**

Royal College of Surgeons
Remarks: Ted Widmer
Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
OFFICIAL PHOTO ONLY

Note: There will be 200 guests in attendance.

PARTICIPANTS
The President
The First Lady
Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith
William Daley
Richard Riley
George Mitchell
Members of Congress
George Mitchell
Maria Echaveste
Samuel Berger
Kitty Higgins
Nancy Soderberg
James Lyons
Anthony Wayne
James Steinberg
Rona Frieberg
Larry Butler (role taker)

- On-stage announcement of the President and the First Lady, accompanied by Taoiseach Bertie Ahern and Celia Larkin.
- The President and Taoiseach Bertie Ahern proceed to their seats at the head table.
- The First Lady and Celia Larkin proceed to their seats at a separate head table.
- Taoiseach Bertie Ahern delivers toast from head table (standing microphone).
- The President delivers a reciprocal toast from head table (standing microphone).
- Lunch is served.
- Upon conclusion of lunch, The President and the First Lady depart.

Note: The First Lady will depart separately.

Greeters: Vice Chancellor TBD, Royal College of Surgeons
Registrar TBD, Royal College of Surgeons

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Friday, September 4, 1998

2:20 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs Royal College of Surgeons en route Gateway Facility
[drive time: 30 minutes]

2:50 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrive Gateway Facility

Greeters: Ted Waitt, Chief Executive Officer, Gateway
Supervisor TBD

2:55 pm-

3:20 pm

[9:55 am-10:20 am EST]

**TOUR OF GATEWAY FACILITY
MULTI-LINGUAL TELESERVICE AND OPERATIONS CENTER**
Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
**OFFICIAL PHOTO ONLY (TELESERVICE CENTER)
POOL PRESS (OPERATIONS CENTER)**

PARTICIPANTS
The President The First Lady William Daley Maria Echaveste Samuel Berger

- **The President and Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern are led on a tour of the Teleservice Center by Gateway CEO Ted Waitt and Supervisor TBD.
OFFICIAL PHOTO ONLY**

- **The President and Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern are led on a tour of the Operations Center by Gateway CEO Ted Waitt and Supervisor TBD.
POOL PRESS**

3:25 pm-

3:30 pm

HOLD

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Friday, September 4, 1998

3:35 pm-
4:35 pm
[10:35 am-11:35 am EST]

**REMARKS ON ECONOMIC PROSPERITY
FACTORY FLOOR**
Gateway Facility
Remarks: Ted Widmer
Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
OPEN PRESS

Note: There will be 2,000 guests in attendance.

PARTICIPANTS
The President Delegation

- Off-stage announcement of the **President** accompanied by Taoiseach Bertie Ahern, Ted Waitt and Supervisor TBD.
- Ted Waitt, Chief Executive Officer, Gateway makes brief welcoming remarks and invites the **President** and Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern to computer table.
- **The President** and Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern proceed to computers and swipe Smart Cards to sign document digitally.
- Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern makes brief remarks and introduces the **President**.
- **The President** makes remarks, works a ropeline and departs.

4:40 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs Gateway Facility via motorcade en route Ambassador's Residence
[drive time: 20 minutes]

5:00 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Ambassador's Residence

Note: The First Lady will join the President at this time.

5:05 pm-
5:10 pm

**EMBASSY MARINE PHOTOGRAPHS
HALLWAY**
Ambassador's Residence
Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
OFFICIAL PHOTO ONLY

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Friday, September 4, 1998

5:15 pm-
6:00 pm
[12:15 pm-1:00 pm EST]

REMARKS TO EMBASSY STAFF AND FAMILIES
OUTDOOR TENT
Ambassador's Residence
Remarks: Matthew Gobush
Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
OFFICIAL PHOTO ONLY

Note: There will be 350 guests in attendance.

PARTICIPANTS
The President
The First Lady
Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith
William Daley
Richard Riley
George Mitchell
Members of Congress
Marta Echaveste
Samuel Berger
Michael McCurry
Drug Sosnik
Melanie Verveur
Kitty Higgins
Mary Mel French
Nancy Suderberg
James Lyons
Marc Grossman
Marsha Berry
Charles Braun
Joe Lockhart
James Steinberg
Rona Frieberg

- Off-stage announcement of the President and the First Lady, accompanied by Ambassador Jean Kennedy-Smith and Senator Joseph Biden.
- Ambassador Jean Kennedy-Smith makes remarks and introduces Senator Joseph Biden.
- Senator Joseph Biden makes remarks and introduces the First Lady.
- The First Lady makes remarks and introduces the President.
- The President makes remarks, works a ropeline, and departs.

February 9, 1999 (9:25am)

Friday, September 4, 1998

6:05 pm-
6:50 pm
[1:05 pm- 1:50 pm (EST)]

BRIEFING/TAPE RADIO ADDRESS
DINING ROOM
Ambassador's Residence
Remarks: Antony Blinken
Staff Contact: Ann Lewis, Julianne Corbett
CLOSED PRESS

Note: Open to Congressional Delegation members.

-- Upon conclusion of taping, the President and the First Lady meet and greet guests and depart.

7:00 pm-
7:30 pm

HOLD

TBD

THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady depart Ambassador's Residence via motorcade en route Dublin International Airport
[drive time: 20 minutes]

TBD

THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady arrive Dublin International Airport

TBD

THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady depart Dublin International Airport via Air Force One en route Shannon Airport, Ireland
[flight time: 45 minutes]

TBD

THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady arrive Shannon Airport

Greeters: Irish Protocol
(AF1)

(Ground) Taoiseach Bertie Ahern
Ms. Celia Larkin
Others TBD

-- Upon arrival, the President and the First Lady are greeted aboard Air Force One by Irish Protocol Officer.

-- The President and the First Lady proceed down stairs and are greeted by Taoiseach Bertie Ahern and Ms. Celia Larkin.

TBD

THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady depart Shannon Airport via motorcade en route Adare Manor
[drive time: 20 minutes]

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Friday, September 4, 1998

TBD

THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady arrive Adare Manor

Greeters: TBD

BC/HRC RON

**ADARE MANOR
ADARE, IRELAND**

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Clinton Library Photocopy

Saturday, September 5, 1998

**Schedule of the President
for
Saturday, September 5, 1998
*Final Schedule***

10:15 am-
10:30 am
[5.10 am-5.30 am EST]

**BRIEFING
PRESIDENTIAL SUITE
Adare Manor
Staff Contact: Maria Echaveste**

Note: Taoiseach Bertie Aheran will meet the President at Adare Manor.

10:40 am
[5:40 am EST]

**THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady depart Adare Manor via motorcade en route Limerick, Ireland
[drive time: 20 minutes]**

Note: Taoiseach Bertie Ahern will accompany in motorcade in a separate vehicle.

11:00 am

THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady arrive Limerick

Greeters: Limerick City Council Members

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Saturday, September 5, 1998

11:10 am-
12:10 pm
[6:10 am-7:10 am EST]

**REMARKS TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTHWEST IRELAND
INTERSECTION OF O'CONNELL AND HENRY STREETS**

Remarks: David Halperin
Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
OPEN PRESS

PARTICIPANTS
The President The First Lady Delegation

Note: There is a pre-program.

- Off-stage announcement of the President, accompanied by Lord Mayor, Taoiseach Bertie Ahern and David O'Hare, Chairman, Conference of University Rectors of Ireland.
- Lord Mayor makes brief welcoming remarks and introduces Taoiseach Bertie Ahern.
- Taoiseach Bertie Ahern makes brief remarks.
- David O'Hare proceeds to podium and presents Peace Award to the President.
- The President proceeds to podium to receive award and remains standing.
- Lord Mayor presents Freedom of the City Award to the President and invites the President signs the book.
- The President signs the book and makes remarks.
- Lord Mayor gives the First Lady a gift.
- The President works a ropeline and depart.

12:20 pm

THE PRESIDENT departs Limerick via motorcade en route Ballybunion Golf Course
[drive time: approximately 1 hour, 40 minutes]

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

Saturday, September 5, 1998

2:00 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Ballybunion Golf Course

Greeters: Jim McKenna, Executive Director, Ballybunion Golf Club
Denis Brosnan, Men's Club President, Ballybunion Golf Club
Joan Steck, Woman's Club President, Ballybunion Golf Club
Mai Maher, Woman's Club Captam, Ballybunion Golf Club

-- Upon arrival, the President proceeds to clubhouse and is greeted by golf party participants.

-- The President exits the clubhouse and works a ropeline of club members

2:30 pm-
8:30 pm **GOLF/LUNCH**

8:35 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs Ballybunion Golf Course en route Listowel Landing Zone
[drive time: 15 minutes]

Note: The President must depart Listowel Landing Zone by 9:00 pm due to flight restrictions.

8:50 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Listowel Landing Zone

Greeters: TBD

9:00 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs Listowel Landing Zone via Marine One en route Shannon Airport
[flight time: 20 minutes]

9:20 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Shannon Airport

9:35 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs Shannon Airport via Air Force One en route Andrews Air Force Base
[flight time: approximately 6 hours, 40 minutes, -5 hours]

11:15 pm ET **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Andrews Air Force Base

11:30 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs Andrews Air Force Base via Marine One en route The White House
[flight time: 10 minutes]

11:40 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives The White House

**BC/HRC RON THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

February 9, 1999 (9:26am)

8/7/98 1:06 pm

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS TO THE PEOPLE OF ARMAGH
ARMAGH, NORTHERN IRELAND
SEPTEMBER 3, 1998**

Wed
Widmer

[acknowledgments]

Three years ago, I became the first American President to visit Northern Ireland when I came to Belfast and Londonderry. Today I am proud to be the first President to visit Armagh [ar-MAH].

Many presidential ancestors came to the New World from Northern Ireland. Andrew Jackson's father left Carrickfergus in County Antrim. Woodrow Wilson's grandfather left Dergalt in County Tyrone.

Unfortunately, my ancestors were so humble that no one knows exactly where they were from. Some speculation centers on County Fermanagh, to the west of Armagh ... so let me save the genealogists a lot of trouble by simply saying it's good to be home.

I am proud to be with you today in a place that is a spiritual home to Irish people of both religious traditions, and to millions of Irish-Americans as well. Armagh is a city on a hill in every sense ... and your faith and tolerance are making a new era of peace possible.

When I came to Northern Ireland in 1995, I saw a place filled with promise. After decades of torment, people were demanding peace ... and taking steps to make it happen. In three short years, that dream has become reality. You have given the rest of the world a chance to breathe a

little easier, and to aim a little higher. I thank you, and America thanks you, for the precious gift you have given all of us ... a gift of hope redeemed and faith restored.

I am tempted, in this city of saints and cathedrals, to call the peace of 1998 a miracle. After all, it was delivered on Good Friday. But it was emphatically *not* a miracle ... at least, not in the conventional sense. You did it yourselves. It came from hard work. It came from honest talk. It came from courageous leaders laying aside their differences for the common good.

Even more, it came from the demands of ordinary citizens like you who communicated your longing for peace before, during and after the agreement. You reminded the leaders that peace is a process, that its work never ends, that a hard agreement is far better than no agreement at all. You made it clear to all who would listen ... enough is enough. Three decades of strife have not advanced the interests of Northern Ireland – or its people. It's time to try a new way. It's time to give up the past tense, and speak the language of the future.

Armagh has stood for these better aspirations throughout its long history. If there is a recurring theme to this seat of learning and religion, it is largeness of spirit. Here a Briton, St. Patrick, devoted himself to the cause of Ireland. Here the Book of Armagh preserved the message of gentleness inherent in the gospels. Here, in the 17th century, an Archbishop of Armagh, James Ussher, calculated what he thought was the moment of creation. He was off by several billion years, but his heart was in the right place. [I kept joke in]

CR

Will you often check w/ Belfast. If this has blow back

^
Scientists tell us not say

~~Amphibious~~
~~NO~~

LB

Today, the two cathedrals that dominate the landscape stand for communion, not competition.

Two proud traditions that exist side by side, bringing people closer to God, and closer to each other. I salute the leadership of Dr. Sean Brady [Catholic Archbishop of Armagh] and Dr. Robin Eames [Church of Ireland (Anglican) Archbishop of Armagh], who for years have walked together when it counted.

The historic streets of this old town remind us of a fundamental fact: Armagh has different traditions, but they encircle a single community.

Add moderation of
Presbyterian &
Methodist churches

Now an untried path is before you, and before every community of Northern Ireland. There will be false steps and disappointments. The question is not if the peace will be challenged ... but how you will respond when it is challenged.

In many ways, peace is harder than war. Peace demands sustained commitment ... enormous patience ... and limitless hope. Peace is not for the faint of heart. It is a constant effort. It is a group effort. The work never ends, and it includes every citizen, from those who remember the time before the ^{current} Troubles to the young people who are already defining Northern Ireland for the next century.

or vigilante intimidation

But you have discovered real strength in your ability to make peace – and in the knowledge of what peace can bring you. Think how much you can do without the dark clouds of hatred and violence looming over your heads. Think how much you can do without the terror of bomb threats. Think what it will feel like to walk freely through Armagh without interruption, without anxiety about what street you walk down or whom you talk to. Think how beautiful this city can be without barbed wire and burned churches.

Peace will bring peace of mind. It will bring prosperity. It will bring new friends eager to see this historic land for the first time. It will bring you into constant dialogue with a world of possibilities. People were once afraid to come to Armagh and Northern Ireland. Now they will be hard pressed to stay away.

I wanted to come here in person to thank you for your peace. Because you have not only strengthened yourselves, you have strengthened my hand and the hand of all those who are working for peace around the world. When I go now to other troubled places, I can point to you as proof that peace is no idle daydream. Your peace is real. And it sends a beacon of hope to people around the world. When I meet Palestinians and Israelis, I can say, "look at Northern Ireland." When I meet Albanians and Serbs, I can say, "look at Northern Ireland." When I meet Indians and Pakistanis, I can say, "look at Northern Ireland." They did it ... now it's your turn. //

[I TEMPORARILY LEFT THIS IN, BECAUSE I THOUGHT IT WAS A NICE COINCIDENCE ABOUT 1776. AND I LIKED SECTION ON THE LOADED TERM OF "UNION." BUT WE CAN LOSE IT. A local history museum, the Palace Stables, has an exhibit depicting life in Armagh on July 23, 1776. On that day, my country was all of 19 days old. Our existence was precarious. ~~We had separated from our mother country, and we had almost no allies.~~ But we persevered, gaining confidence, and gaining sympathy from friends of liberty like the great Irish orator, Edmund Burke. From uncertain beginnings, we forged a path to a better future.

This is good - positive links to our nation building / tracing links

Wondering what we would become as a nation, home of 13 disparate colonies

The price of defending our liberties ⁵ ~~is~~ ^{our} failures ~~is~~ ^{never}

Americans have learned from our own history that democracy is hard. Uniting different traditions and peoples is hard. Our record is far from perfect. But you have to keep going. You have to make choices. You have to take risks. These risks do not always pay off. But more often than not, they do.

We revere our past, but we know that history is not frozen in July 1776 ... it is always moving forward. Our greatest days are still unwritten. And as we strive to live up to the words of our Constitution, "to form a more perfect union", we know that these old words are continually given new meaning by evolving circumstances and our evolving understanding of our union. The job of forming a more perfect union is never done.]

The clergyman and poet John Donne wrote, "No man is an island." That idea applies to nations as well. We might even say "no island is an island" ... anymore. Northern Ireland is obviously ~~connected to the Republic of Ireland~~ ^{Shaw's}

this beautiful island with

~~connected to the Republic of Ireland~~. Both are connected, in their way, to England, Scotland and Wales. All are increasingly connected to Europe, and to the rest of the world. Ideas, information and money fly around the globe at lightning speed with the touch of a keypad. ^{has left} It is time to leave insularity behind, and to build new links ... connecting the best traditions of the past with the limitless promise of the future. Each of us is, in Donne's words, "a piece of the continent, a part of the main."

your citizens can freely travel around and live in any of the other 13 EU members. A great many of you do this in the United States, as well.

A new world has emerged over the last decade. The Cold War is over. Adversaries have become allies. In South Africa, in South Korea, in South America, new ideas are reshaping

(Shaw's)

indeed, Irish + British people have paid the ultimate price for peace or foreign shores.

societies once roiled by conflict. Europe is united as never before in its history. You have never hesitated to support peace efforts in other places. Now it is time for peace at home.

America's only Irish-Catholic President, John F. Kennedy, loved to quote a British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill: courage "is rightly esteemed as the first of all human qualities because it is the quality which guarantees all the others." Courage was at the heart of your decision to vote for peace. It was an act of bravery, and an act of faith. Now you must keep the faith.

We Americans will do what we can to support a just peace for all. But ultimately, it is your responsibility. Our people share a common past. From ^{to Omagh} Armagh and every other community in Northern Ireland, men and women left to become Americans, to build a new nation from humble beginnings.

I said 3 years ago that I would if you chose the path of peace, I would walk with you. I take that walk

So, too, we share a common future. America will stand with you as you build this peace, step by step, day by day. It will take time ... but we are with you for the duration. We thank you for the springtime of hope you gave the world - and we thank you for reminding us of the best lesson of our shared history ... that it is never too late to strive for a new beginning. [SLIGHTLY IMPROVED ENDING BUT NOT TOO DIFFERENT]

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8/18/98 1:30 pm

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS TO THE PEOPLE OF ARMAGH
ARMAGH, NORTHERN IRELAND
SEPTEMBER 3, 1998**

[acknowledgments]

Three years ago, I became the first American President to visit Northern Ireland when I came to Belfast and Londonderry. Today I am proud to be the first President to visit Armagh [ar-MAH].

Many presidential ancestors came to the New World from Northern Ireland. Andrew Jackson's father left Carrickfergus in County Antrim. Woodrow Wilson's grandfather left Dergalt in County Tyrone. Other ancestors left from other counties, north and south of the border.

My ancestors were so humble that no one knows exactly where they were from. Some speculation centers on County Fermanagh, to the west of Armagh ... so let me save the genealogists a lot of trouble by simply saying it's good to be home.

(?)

I am proud to be with you today in a place that is a spiritual home to Irish people of both religious traditions, and to millions of Irish-Americans as well. Armagh is a city on a hill in every sense ... and your faith and tolerance are making a new era of peace possible.

When I came to Northern Ireland in 1995, I saw a place filled with promise. After decades of torment, people were demanding peace ... and taking steps to make it happen. In three short years, that dream has become reality. You have given the rest of the world a chance to breathe a

*a boost in confidence that a heart is capable not deign can
decency can triumph over tragedy over hated, but
hatred, that even the most even the most serge
seemingly intractable divisions can be. intractable divisions can
overcome. You have inspired the world be come. You have inspired it will*

little easier and to aim a little higher. I thank you, and America thanks you, for the precious gift you have given all of us ... a gift of hope redeemed and faith restored.

I am tempted, in this city of saints and cathedrals, to call the peace of 1998 a miracle. After all, it was delivered on Good Friday. But it was emphatically *not* a miracle ... at least, not in the conventional sense. You did it yourselves. It came from hard work. It came from honest talk. It came from courageous leaders laying aside their differences for the common good.

Even more, it came from the demands of ordinary citizens like you who communicated your longing for peace before, during and after the agreement. You gave the leaders the confidence to move forward, remembering that peace is a process, that the work never ends, that a hard agreement is far better than no agreement at all. You made it clear to all who would listen ... enough is enough. Three decades of strife have not advanced the interests of Northern Ireland – or its people. It's time to try a new way. It's time to give up the past tense, and speak the language of the future.

Armagh has stood for these better aspirations throughout its long history. If there is a recurring theme to this seat of learning and religion, it is largeness of spirit. Here a Briton, St. Patrick, devoted himself to the cause of Ireland and left a legacy of faith and compassion. Here the Book of Armagh preserved his message and the gentleness of the gospels. Here, in the 17th century, an Archbishop of Armagh, James Ussher, calculated what he thought was the exact moment of creation. Scientists tell us he was off by several billion years ... but we can still admire what I'm sure were very good intentions.

Today, the two cathedrals that dominate the landscape stand for the idea that communion is better than competition. Two proud traditions can exist side by side, bringing people closer to God, and closer to each other. I salute the leadership of Dr. Sean Brady [Catholic Archbishop of Armagh] and Dr. Robin Eames [Church of Ireland [Anglican] Archbishop of Armagh], who for years have walked together when it counted. I also salute the Presbyterians and Methodists who have worked hard for peace. There have been difficulties here as elsewhere, but the historic streets of this old town remind us of a fundamental fact: Armagh has different traditions, but they encircle a single community.

Now an untried path is before you, and before every community of Northern Ireland. There will be false steps and disappointments. The question is not if the peace will be challenged ... but how you will respond when it is challenged. We do not have to look far the bomb that tore at the heart of Omagh was a blatant attack on the peace agreement. Once again, innocent families were slaughtered ~~by murderers too ashamed to name themselves, and the world turned away in horror and weariness.~~ But the swift and unanimous condemnation that followed ~~gave~~ hope that this time, hope that this time is different, and the peace will hold. Only time will tell. Only you can decide.

In many ways, peace is harder than violence. Peace demands sustained commitment ... enormous patience ... and limitless hope. Peace is not for the faint of heart. It is a constant effort. It is a group effort. It includes every citizen, from those who remember the time before

you sure you usual to
you gave your answer? in
— 54

the recent Troubles to the young people who are already defining Northern Ireland for the next century.

But you have discovered real strength in your resolve to make peace – and in the knowledge of what peace can bring you. Think how much you can do without the dark clouds of hatred and violence looming over your heads. Think how much you can do without the terror of bomb threats and vigilante intimidation. Think what it will feel like to walk freely through Armagh without interruption, without anxiety about what street you walk down or whom you talk to. Think how beautiful this city can be without barbed wire and burned churches.

and helpful and beautiful

Peace will bring peace of mind. It will bring prosperity. It will bring new friends eager to see this historic land for the first time. It will bring you into constant dialogue with a world of possibilities. People were once afraid to come to Armagh and Northern Ireland. Now they will be hard pressed to stay away.

I wanted to come here in person to thank you for your peace. Because you have not only strengthened yourselves, you have strengthened my hand and the hand of all those who are working for peace around the world. When I go now to other troubled places, I can point to you as proof that peace is no idle daydream. Your peace is real. And it resonates with people around the world. When I meet Palestinians and Israelis, I can say, “look at Northern Ireland.” When I meet Albanians and Serbs, I can say, “look at Northern Ireland.” When I meet Indians and Pakistanis, I can say, “look at Northern Ireland.” They did it ... now it’s your turn.

A local history museum, the Palace Stables, has an exhibit depicting life in Armagh on July 23, 1776. On that day, my country was all of 19 days old. Our existence was precarious. We had separated from our mother country, and we had almost no allies. But we persevered, and from uncertain beginnings, we forged a path to a better future.

Americans have learned from our own history that democracy is hard. Uniting different traditions and peoples is hard. Our record is far from perfect. As we strive to live up to the words of our Constitution, "to form a more perfect union", we know that these old words are continually given new meaning by evolving circumstances and our evolving understanding of our union. The job of forming a more perfect union is never done. But you have to keep going. You have to make choices. You have to take risks because peace and progress demand a new approach now and then ... and they are worth the effort.

The clergyman and poet John Donne wrote, "No man is an island." That idea applies to nations as well. We might even say "no island is an island" ... anymore. Northern Ireland is obviously connected to the Republic of Ireland. Both are connected, in different ways, to England, Scotland and Wales. All are increasingly connected to Europe, and to the rest of the world. Ideas, information and money fly around the globe at lightning speed with the touch of a keypad. Each of us is, in Donne's words, "a piece of the continent, a part of the main." Technology is redefining geography ... connecting the best traditions of the past with the limitless promise of the future.

A new world has emerged over the last decade. The Cold War is over. Adversaries have become allies. In South Africa, in South Korea, in South America, new ideas are reshaping societies once roiled by conflict. Europe is united as never before in its history. You have never hesitated to support peace efforts in other places. Now it is time for peace at home.

America's only Irish-Catholic President, John F. Kennedy, loved to quote a British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill: courage "is rightly esteemed as the first of all human qualities because it is the quality which guarantees all the others." Courage was at the heart of your decision to vote for peace. It was an act of bravery, and an act of faith. Now you must keep the faith.

Need more of this
Need
me
of
MS

We Americans will do what we can to support a just peace for all. Our people share a common past. From Armagh, Omagh and every other community on this island, men and women left to become Americans, to build a new nation from humble beginnings.

And in the most tentative days of our history, we were bolstered by your strength. In the earliest days of our new gov't, 200 yrs ago, men of Ireland were prominent in the debate over how to achieve a balanced gov't, responsible to all. We became a special nation, but we drew strength from both of Ireland's religious traditions.

So, too, we share a common future. I said three years ago that if you chose the path of peace, America would walk with you. You made ~~the right~~ ^{but that} choice. And we will walk with you, step by step, day by day, year by year. It will take time ... but we are with you for the duration. We thank you for the springtime of hope you gave the world - and for reminding us of one of the best lessons of our shared history ... that it is never too late to strive for a new beginning. With perseverance ... with patience ... with unshakable faith, let us begin again the journey that has united us before ... the journey to explore ^{the} a new world of possibilities.

belonged the sunset, beginning tomorrow -
lying just beyond the sunset.

8/29/98 7 p.m.

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
ADDRESS TO THE NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY AND TO
THE PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND
WATERFRONT HALL, BELFAST
SEPTEMBER 3, 1998**

[Acknowledgments:]

Members of the Northern Ireland Assembly, citizens of Belfast, people of Northern Ireland: I am deeply moved to stand with you today in the dawn after Northern Ireland's long darkness. On Good Friday of this year, you, the leaders of Northern Ireland, committed to solve your problems with words, not weapons. One month later, you, the people, overwhelmingly supported that choice at the polls, giving hope a victory over hatred. Together, you have made a powerful covenant, enshrining in this Assembly the idea that the future of Northern Ireland can only be decided by the votes of its people. Together, you have moved Northern Ireland from the deep freeze of despair into the warm sunlight of peace.

The Troubles that plagued this land for 30 years took a terrible toll, physical and emotional. More than 3,200 of your fellow citizens were killed -- in my country, that would be the equivalent of half a million people... [or about the number of Americans we lost in World War II]. Many more were maimed. Every single citizen of Northern Ireland was affected. Not only those who lost a mother or father, son or daughter, husband and wife, friend or colleague. But every citizen denied the quiet blessing of a normal life. You have lived with the constant fear that a simple trip to the store could be devastated by bombs and bullets. The daily disruptions of road blocks and searches. The ominous presence of armed soldiers on patrol. Neighborhoods

demarcated by barbed wire, guarded gates and twenty-foot fences. It is not surprising that the following question was painted on a Belfast wall: "Is there life *before* death?" Now, at last, by your actions, there will be.

From here on, the destiny of Northern Ireland is in the hands of its people and their elected representatives. From farming to finance... education to health care, your new Assembly has the opportunity -- and the responsibility -- to forge the future. The cross-border structures you have approved can strengthen the quality of your ties to both London and Dublin, based on the benefits of interdependence, not the burdens of dependence or dominance. And in your newfound peace, you can find a new prosperity. Since the 1994 cease-fire, passenger traffic at your international airport and your ferry port has increased more than 15 percent. The number of hotel rooms under construction has doubled. And in the wake of the Good Friday agreement, you are projected to receive record-levels of investment, foreign and domestic -- bringing new jobs, opportunity and hope.

The United States has supported your quest for peace with our words and deeds -- starting with an Irish-American community whose commitment to this cause is as deep as it is enduring. It has been one of the great privileges of my presidency to stand with the peacemakers -- Protestant and Catholic leaders here in the North... with prime ministers Bruton and Ahern of Ireland... and prime ministers Major and Blair of the United Kingdom. Our Congress has been with the peacemakers from the start -- members of both houses and both parties. They have voted extraordinary support for the International Fund for Ireland -- \$[TK] over [TK] years. I am delighted that so many members are with me today, along with Jim Lyons, my special advisor

for economic initiatives in Northern Ireland. And I can safely say that one of the best investments the United States has ever made was when we loaned you the services of George Mitchell, who helped you make the turn from conflict to cooperation.

Now, in the months and years ahead, I want you to know this: America will continue to wage a day-to-day campaign of renewal with you. We will help train the new Assembly's members...

support the NGOs who are building a civil society from the grassroots... invest in our common future through education... create with you microcredit facilities for small business... and

support the trade and investment that will benefit both our peoples. As you work to change the face and the future of Northern Ireland, you can count on America.

For all that we can and will do, the future is up to you -- the leaders and the people of Northern Ireland. You have agreed to bury the violence of the past -- now begins the hard work of building peace.

To the members of the new Assembly, you owe it to your country to bring out the best in people by showing the best in yourselves. Difficult, sometimes wrenching decisions lie ahead. As you face them, never lose sight of why you are here: to shape Northern Ireland's destiny by sharing in the great responsibility of governance. That will require you to act in concert, not conflict; to overcome obstacles, not create them; to rise above petty disputes, not fuel them. The Latin word for assembly -- *conciliatus* -- is the root of the word reconciliation. I hope that the spirit of reconciliation will be deeply rooted in all that you do.

In the early days of my own nation's independence, one of our most remarkable leaders was Andrew Jackson, whose parents came from Carrickfergus not far from Belfast. He helped transform a government ruled by the few into a government of the people, by the people and for the people. And he used his leadership to shepherd a young America through a very divisive era that threatened to tear our nation apart. President Jackson once said that "one man with courage makes a majority." May courage always make a majority among the members of this Assembly.

The courage to decommission the weapons of war that are obsolete in a Northern Ireland at peace. The courage to move forward now with the formation of an Executive Council, so that the laws you make can begin to benefit your citizens. The courage to adapt your police force so that it earns the confidence and respect of all the people of Northern Ireland. The courage to end street justice, because defining crime and applying punishment must be left to the people's elected representatives, the courts and the police. The courage to pursue early release for prisoners whose organizations have truly abandoned violence, because the new Northern Ireland must not automatically deny people a future for the sins of their past. The courage to build a more just society where human rights are birthrights... and where every citizen receives equal protection and equal treatment under the law. These are the hallmarks of democracy. They must be the benchmarks of the new Northern Ireland.

To the people of Northern Ireland I say, do not let this moment slip away. Your will for peace has carried Northern Ireland to this crossroads of hope. Give your leaders the support they need to make the hard decisions, to stay the course of peace. Help them forge a new politics of the center in which the forces of moderation trump the power of the extremes. Let me say

especially to the community leaders who are here today -- representatives from non-governmental organizations... from business, law and academia... and especially the women who have been such a powerful force for peace: your voices are vital. The example you set among your neighbors, the work you do in your communities and the standards you demand from your elected officials will shape Northern Ireland's future.

I know that for many, the wounds are deep and the scars still fresh. Every single man, woman and child in Northern Ireland under the age of thirty has known nothing but the Troubles. All of you face the task of imagining a future different than the past -- and realizing it.

There will be hard road ahead. Waging peace is difficult. It demands patience. Perseverance. And vigilance. The terrible act of terror in Omagh was not the last bomb of the Troubles -- it was the first attack on the peace. We Americans felt it all the more strongly because it came just days after the inhuman terrorist assault on our embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. The bombs and bullets that kill innocents in both our countries and around the world are aimed not only at them, but at the spirit of freedom. Together, we must defend it. We Americans believe this: terrorism is not a form of political expression or a manifestation of religious faith. Terrorism is murder. Those who perpetrate it, finance it or otherwise support it must be opposed.

Here in Northern Ireland, the question is not whether there will be more bombs and more attempts to undo with violence the verdict of the ballot box. There may well be. The question is not whether tempers will flare and debates will be divisive. They will be. The question is, how

will you react to violence? How will you deal with your differences? The question is, will you stay on the path of peace and civil society?

The answer depends on how you choose to see yourselves and your fellow citizens. It is tempting to define ourselves not by who we are, but by what others are not. All around the world, from Bosnia to the Middle East, Rwanda to Kosovo, people have killed each other because they see only differences. A different race. A different tribe. A different ethnic group. A different religion. In this cult of difference, we deny the humanity of others -- and our own.

From here on in Northern Ireland, only one dividing line matters -- the line between those who embrace peace and those who would destroy it; those energized by hope and those paralyzed by hatred; those who choose to build up and those who insist on tearing down. Which side are you on? Each of you must choose.

I believe that you will continue to make the right choice because in the end, much more unites the people of Northern Ireland than divides you. You hold the same fundamental values -- faith and family, work and community. You share the same land and heritage, the same love of language and laughter. You aspire to the same things. To live in peace and security. To provide for your loved ones. To build a better life than your parents knew or could imagine -- and to pass on even brighter possibilities to your children. These dreams are not Catholic dreams or Protestant dreams. They are human dreams -- and you have the greatest chance ever to realize them in a Northern Ireland at peace.

I speak to you today on behalf of the American people, who know from our own experience the hard work it takes to forge a community from a nation of different groups. More than a century ago, we fought a terrible civil war over race and slavery. Just thirty years ago, in the summer of 1968, we came to violence over the cause of civil rights for every American, and our cities burned -- as Belfast and Portadown burned in July. Still today, we struggle with this legacy of division -- and the challenge of building one nation from the many races, religions and ethnic groups spread out across our land.

But we have learned to bury our hatred instead of our children. And we have discovered that great benefits come from finding common ground. Our nation is stronger and the lives of our people more peaceful, more prosperous, more filled with hope when we bridge the valley of our differences to become a real community. That has been our experience. Now, it can be Northern Ireland's future.

Members of the Assembly, citizens of Belfast, people of Northern Ireland: in the early days of our republic, the Irish term for America was *inishfail* -- island of destiny. Today, Ireland is an island of destiny -- and that destiny is peace. You have seen what war has wrought. You know what peace can bring. America is with you. The world is with you. But the choice is yours. May you choose peace. And may God Bless the people of Northern Ireland.

Gray, Wendy E.

Serialize

1/11

From: Gray, Wendy E.
Sent: Friday, August 28, 1998 4:24 PM
To: Blinken, Antony J.
Subject: Sharon Robinson = Speechwriter for the Lord Mayor of Belfast [UNCLASSIFIED]

With 5 VIPs speaking at the Thursday event and with our President being last, Ms. Robinson was wondering what topics the President might touch on. With this information in hand she would request the other four not speak on these topics to prevent repetition and so the POTUS remarks will be "fresh."

She can be reached City Hall tomorrow at 01232 241-405
on mobile phone (b)(6) or if easier you could fax to her on a private fax (she is the only one with access)
and topics you wish to share would remain private at (b)(6)

(44) 1232

Ms Robinson just called 10:55 if off to a meeting but should be back at city hall by 12:30 at the latest (I confirmed the above members)

W.

POINTS FOR IRELAND SPEECH

Intro

- We gather in the dawn after a long darkness.
- hope has triumphed over hatred.
- a victory of the future over the past.
- fatigue with a futile conflict that could have no winners
- bury your hatred instead of your people.
- choose compromise over killing/solve problems with words not weapons.
- from the deep freeze of destruction to the warm sunlight of peace.
- a chance to heal the divisions between nationalism and unionism and to bury the violence of the past.
- Fulfilled the plea of John Hume "to end this out-of-date quarrel."
- first all-island poll in 80 years.
- enshrine idea that fate of NI can only be decided by the votes of its people.
- point is not to change goals of two sides, but to change means by which they pursue them.
- Referendum on GF accord turned a piece of paper into a covenant between the people of NI and their leaders, a pledge of hope.

Then/Now

- 3,200 killed over 30 years = 1/2 million americans..
- Peace line between Protestant Shankill and Catholic Springfield Rd. composed of barbed wire, gates, 20 ft high iron fences. Now, peace line has new meaning.
- British arms soldiers on patrol. check points. bomb threats.
- new legislature that protects rights of minority. Assembly will have authority over agriculture, finance, health and economic development.
- cross border structures to create links between northern and southern ireland. will become forum for ensuring that southern interests are protected. powers to implement all-ireland policies provided it can agree on them with assembly and with Irish parliament in Dublin.
- Brit-Irish council to create links between Ireland and all parts of UK.
- Belfast Graffiti "Is there life before death" Now, at least, there is.
- Economy key: people need to see a future better than past -- violence and instability turns off investment, stability attracts them.
- IDB announced that home-based and international companies have pledged record new levels of investment and jobs in Northern Ireland over next 3 years, with total planned investment of 713MP and creation of more than 7000 jobs.
- After '94 ceasefire, passenger #s at Belfast Intl. airport +17%. '96, ferry passengers to port of Larne +15%. Since '95, # hotel rooms under construction has doubled and 40%+ in bed space since early 1990s. peace=prosperity.

Just society, Every city
equal protection +
equal rights
Tutelage
Tribal
d NB

U.S. Role/International Role

- determined to wage day-to-day campaign of renewal with you.
- work to help you change the face and future of NI.

Message to those who will Shape Future

- I come before you with a message for those in whose hands the future of NI lies -- its leaders and its people. That future is up to you.

Responsibility of Leaders -- What You've Done/What You Must Do

- Owe it to your country to bring out the best in people -- acting in concert, not conflict; overcoming obstacles, not creating them; rising above petty disputes, not fueling them. Leaders in a democracy must bring out the best in their people. but in the end, they also must serve the people from whom their power derives.
- "One man with courage makes a majority" Andrew Jackson, 1832.
- Shape your own destiny together by sharing in government.
- Key word is respect: respect for all who speak the language of peace
- Now, you have to get down to practical work of governing, on dealing with drains, roads, arts grants, education, health and other practical things. The small print of the peace accord.
- You will face obstacle course in weeks/months ahead.
- Issues

* Decommissioning: surrender of weapons and bombs by paramilitary orgs. In lead up to good friday, decision made not to define peace as absence of all violence. Can't allow sporadic eruptions to hold process hostage. Same approach to decommissioning? Is silence of guns enough. Catholics fear leaving all weapons in hands of police they mistrust (hence importance of police reform)

* Police Reform: 90 percent unionist force. Profoundly distrusted by Catholics. RUC will shrink, costing protestans jobs; as it diversifies. Should it include de-arming of police and gun control? 2 Appro on common - Chilling comm to be merged + bill
 in pen for peace men just society

* Prisoners: every former terrorist released from prison holds otential to re-inflate old tensions. Most emotive. Agreement proposes legislation to establish review bodies to fix dates for accelerated release for qualifying prisoners within 2 years (i.e. only prisoners from groups that maintain CF. On license to serve rest of terms if re-offend. No amnesty -- i.e. can't servie in police. 340 prisoners in the North. Already (before peace) have seen early release of 400+ lifers over past 13 years. Fewer than 20 re-arrested.

* Justice: condemned by UN report for menacing treatment of human rights lawyers.

(No jury - No known witnesses) Last had et how you
 administer justice - Must
 be transparent - Subj/pt

Police who
 reportable
 to citizens
 and
 no one has
 right to
 arbitrarily
 arrest or
 detain
 or how to
 balance
 or there

Ought was not let but of
 trouble but first
 attack on the peace

But
 No street
 justice
 in their
 courts

* HR Rylts leg
 Enact into NZ law
 Euro Court on HR
 Establish Com
 1. 11 of rights for

Govt should be
 12. 2 yr or less
 no one imposed
 for then can
 be not by
 committee.

- Idt portfolios
- Bid on them
- Ruls of order
- credit spates

Assembly: Establish Shadow Exec. Council
 (Trumble holds hosts to decomm)
 Pass laws but no one to implmt.

- Direct rule
 Hra of Comm. report.

In ch'99, this body was responsible for leg. treaty for NI 1.5 m payroll
 Means to directly affect people's quality of life
 With power comes responsibility - you are responsible to

Around you in power
 Every walk of life - you are responsible to them. Politics is about the possible, not impossible.

- Need Exec. Council for N-S Council to be formed.
 You might some spec, should appear + work done to build future for your children.

Responsibility of People -- What You Must Do

- give leaders support they need to make the hard decisions for a common future.
- challenge is to make sure this moment does not slip away.
- more than 80% of you turned out to vote "yes" in the referendum
- Referendum on GF accord turned a piece of paper into a covenant between the people of NI and their leaders, a pledge of hope..

Challenge of Peace

- fighting aggressively for peace is difficult. So many have lost mothers and fathers, husbands and wives, sons and daughters. so many wounds are deep and their scars still fresh.
- Those seeking solution have climbed the highest of hills -- only to see new peaks and valleys stretching out before them.
- need to entrench the peace, to make it deep-rooted.
- Entire generations - every man, women and child in NI under the age of 30 -- has never known anything but the Troubles. You grow up knowing what side you are on. Hard work of imagining a future different than their past.
- shape new relationships -- between unionists and nationalists, north and south, london and dublin.
- forge a new politics of the center in which forces of moderation trump the power of the extremes..
- Divisions not just sectarian but territorial -- low level partition quietly continues as its Catholic and Protestant inhabitants separate (1991: 50% of population living in areas either 90% catholic or 90% protestant.)
- True differences not between Protestants and Catholics but between those who embrace future and those who cling to past etc... Need to meet desire of people to define themselves in ways other than the sectarian categories that have long shaped NI.
- Key question is how peace will change the lives of people living in NI.

Convinced You Can Succeed

- Guatemala to South Africa, El Salvador to Bosnia, people are turning from conflict to conciliation.

American E.G.

9/10/98 1:45 pm

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS AT IRISH-AMERICAN EVENT
THE WHITE HOUSE
SEPTEMBER 11, 1998**

[acknowledgments: Vice President Gore, First Lady, Senator Mitchell, Senator Kennedy, Brian O'Dwyer]

It is a profound honor to receive this award. I am always grateful for any award that recognizes the work of peace, but in this case, the award is special because it honors Paul O'Dwyer, a man who tirelessly devoted his life to the cause of people – not just Irish people, but all people. Let me accept not only for myself, but on behalf of the many who put in long hours to convert the peace agreement from a miracle delivered on Good Friday to a daily reality, going into effect as we speak.

Last week, during my visit to Northern Ireland and Ireland, I learned a little of the predicament of Ray Lankford, the St. Louis Cardinals centerfielder who often bats behind Mark McGwire. Because that's what it felt like to be introduced after George Mitchell at one event after another. Before I go on, let me say how proud America is of the former majority leader, whose wisdom, determination and infinite patience helped turn the leaders in Northern Ireland from conflict to the beginnings of cooperation.

Eight days ago, I flew from Moscow to Belfast. Even early in the morning, people were out in droves to wave American flags at us as we drove from one spot in Northern Ireland to another. At Stormont and at Waterfront Hall, we saw the crucial players who are already coming together

to start a new government. At Armagh, I spoke before tens of thousands of people, young and old – and the dynamic impact of this peace could not have been clearer. That same day, at Omagh, I met with the victims of a brutal attack on the peace. But even the saddest moment of my trip carried a message of affirmation. The victims I met with – from north and south of the border – were **united** in their resolve that the work of peace continue.

The Good Friday peace agreement and its overwhelming approval by the Irish people, **north and south**, has brought something precious – the chance to begin anew. After 29 years of the Troubles, the people of Northern Ireland and Ireland are saying “no” to violence and division and “yes” to cooperation and progress. There will always be setbacks. But the few who hate have lost their ability to intimidate the vast majority who hope.

Last week, I could already see the peace taking shape. I addressed the new assembly in Northern Ireland. And day after day, there were important breakthroughs. **Just before we arrived, each side reached out to the other. Gerry Adams unequivocally condemned the Omagh bombing and declared violence “a thing of the past.” He then named Martin McGuinness as Sinn Fein’s person responsible for decommissioning. And First Minister David Trimble showed leadership by announcing he would meet with Gerry Adams. They met this Monday, and held their first ever bilateral session yesterday. ~~These meetings would have been unthinkable~~ last Saint Patrick’s Day. This peace is going forward. And as it continues, let us remember an old Irish saying ... “a job well-begun is a job half-done.”**

*It's breathtaking to consider the distance
we've come since*

There are so many reasons to work for this peace, on both sides of the border and both sides of the Atlantic. A peaceful and prosperous Ireland is already well on its way to becoming one of America's best partners in the new century. Nowhere does the new millennium correspond better to a real change in the outlook of a people. New ideas and new approaches have opened up a wide future. Ireland's economy is booming. ~~Growth has been phenomenal throughout the 1990s - last year it was 7.7%, and this year the Irish government may post a surplus of \$1.7 billion.~~ More and more companies are responding to the Irish government's efforts to attract investment⁺ there are 470 American companies in Ireland and the list is growing fast. Dublin is a major telecommunications center, and a natural gateway for Internet commerce between the U.S. and Europe. There are probably more foreigners living than at any time since the Vikings pillaged Ireland in the 9th century. I hate to confuse the symbols of two different American sports teams, but I have to agree - the "Celtic Tiger" is roaring.

This prosperity has sent ripples of change around the island. In thousands of ways, Ireland is less insular and more connected with the outside world. Ireland's strong relationship with Great Britain has opened opportunities on both sides of the Irish Sea. Irish-American relations have never been better. At home, many new Irish voices are expressing themselves. The First Lady mentioned the Vital Voices conference. This peace would never have happened were it not for the women who spoke out against violence and hatred. The example of Mary Robinson and Mary McAleese has galvanized Irish women to enter public life. And the young people of Ireland are committed as never before to building a future - in Ireland.

This is good news for Irish-Americans who love their ancestral home. But Ireland's peace and prosperity benefit all Americans. Because a prosperous, international Ireland will help us in our many efforts to build peace and prosperity in other parts of the world. Irish peacekeepers have been on the job day in and day out since the UN started peacekeeping forty years ago. In that time, Irish Defence Forces have participated in 33 peacekeeping missions -- and 75 Irish soldiers have given their lives. Today, they are stationed around the world, from Africa to the Middle East to Bosnia, where they stand shoulder to shoulder with American troops. ~~They are making the world a safer place to live.~~

Seeing the people of Ireland brought home to me just how much America ^{has to contribute} ~~can mean~~ to our friends around the world. Everywhere we went, announced and unannounced, the Irish people poured out their affection for the United States. I felt proud of all of us -- of Senator Mitchell -- of the First Lady -- of the Congressional delegation who came with me -- and of everyone in my administration and Congress who worked to give peace a chance.

But I was especially proud of the Irish-American community. Your commitment to peace is as deep as it is enduring. Each day I was in Ireland and Northern Ireland, I was grateful for your commitment ... the community activists pressing for civil rights and equality ... the business leaders investing in Ireland's future ... **the religious leaders urging tolerance and understanding ... the strong voices from the United States insisting that violence is not an acceptable course of action, that building is better than fighting** ... the people from all backgrounds who form a living bridge to the island we trace our ancestry to ... the people like Kirk O'Donnell, who passed away last week, but spent a lifetime advancing the friendship

between our nations. All of you kept us focused on the task at hand. Thank you for that commitment.

The Irish built this peace themselves. They voted for it. **But as each leader took a risk on this peace, they relied on America's unwavering support.** I am honored that we could provide it. As I said at Armagh, this peace has affected many people around the world, far from Ireland's shores. It has shown cynics and backsliders that peace is no idle daydream – that hostile parties can honestly confront their differences and put aside ancient quarrels for the common good and the good of the future. In the Middle East, in the Balkans, in South Asia ... everywhere the hand of history weighs heavily on people ... the peace of 1998 is sending a message of hope, faith and confidence to move beyond the limitations of the past.

A hundred years ago, in 1898, William Butler Yeats gave a speech in which he evaluated Ireland's past and predicted a new day was beginning with the new century. **He said, "these '98 celebrations are not going to pass away and be forgotten ... we are building up a nation which shall be moved by noble purposes and to noble ends."** It has taken some time to realize that vision. But a hundred years later, his prediction is coming true – and it is poetry for those of us who have waited a long time to see this day. Thank you all for your work toward peace ... for Ireland, and for America.

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8/27/98 2:35 pm

PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS TO THE PEOPLE OF OMAGH
OMAGH, NORTHERN IRELAND
SEPTEMBER 3, 1998

[acknowledgments]

Today I have returned for a second time to this land so deeply linked to my own. Today, I have come to Omagh [OH-mah] to grieve with you over the bomb that killed 28 [tk] innocent people on August 15. And I have come to look with you toward the daybreak that always follows the blackest darkness.

When I came to Northern Ireland in 1995, I saw a place filled with promise. I came then with a conviction-~~[can't say he was naïve]~~ ~~naively American belief~~ that a new beginning was possible. I will never forget the people I met and the crowds I saw. It was one of the finest moments of my presidency. It reaffirmed something I believe very deeply ... that our ability to talk and reason is at the core of what it means to be human.

w/ mixed emotions. I am appalled...

I return today ~~a little less naïve~~ but no less committed to the peace we glimpsed this spring.

{Only ewierd about this set up is that in fact, reason to be MUCH MORE optimistic now than two years ago since intervening factor of Good Friday Accords. Yes, tempered by Omagh, but fundamentally even brighter hopes. You may need to rework these grafs with that in mind}

I have come to express America's outrage and righteous indignation. [too snide and patronizing] But perhaps "righteous" is not the right word to use when there are already too many self-appointed experts on the subject of Ireland.

But ~~that~~ also I am ~~trav~~ ~~lady~~

never been so p. of my heritage as when the two girls closed ranks after the bombing. We all knew there had be challenges to this peace. This was the hardest challenge conceivable and the peace smites.

More than anything, I have come to express my simple sympathy for the people of Omagh ... the victims, their families, and the community at large. Sympathy and something more ... I want to share with you my determined refusal to let this cowardly crime rob you of the new history you chose for yourself this spring. [good]

What happened here on August 15 ^{people} was unspeakable and incomprehensible. ^{It defied logic ... a} ~~paramilitary-attack~~ ^{irrelevant situation, told to go the} on the wrong people, in the wrong place at the wrong time [it's a good line,

*It should be no surprise that
was indeed the
killing of Catholics & Protestants
of the same
Irish w. & children*

but are there ever cases where its "the right people?" I know what you mean, but could be misconstrued. What do you think? It defied the wonderful, generous spirit of 1998 ... a year in which differences were tabled for the greater good, and people spoke out with one voice. It defied what I know to be the true heart of the people of Northern Ireland and Ireland. [good]

about the bombing

A paradox I have never been able to solve is the fact that the most generous, kind-hearted, decent people on earth have wasted so many lives and so many centuries on a war that has brought no one victory or happiness. That people so accustomed to the sounds of laughter and song should find them drowned out by explosions, gunfire and sirens. That people so endowed with the gift of language should find their tongues stilled by fear and suspicion. [wonderful graf!]

~~We have recently observed that, even~~ Even as wars diminish, acts of terror continue and sometimes even escalate. They are usually committed by people who, for one reason or another, find peace and progress threatening. The bombing here was no exception. The authors of this

I am +

atrocities degraded everything that human beings hold dear. They live in the past. They belong in the past. They will stay in the past.

When I heard the news of the bombing I was reminded of a poem @ saying by E. B. ... For Humans can cause great harm to each other ... but they can also undo that harm.

The Irish have a history as proud as any people's. That bright heritage will always be with you.

But the time has come to let go of your darker history. It is time for a new beginning. You are so close. You have come so far. In three short years, what was dismissed as a pipe-dream has become reality. You have renewed confidence that decency can triumph over hatred ... that we humans are worthy of the great capacity for reason our Creator has given to us.

The greatest eulogy in my country's history was the Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. A gruesome battle had just killed many thousands on both sides, including large numbers of men who had spent ^{most of their lives on this island} their entire well, not entire since they were in U.S. Maybe "who had come to America from Ireland]] lives in Ireland and Northern Ireland. Many Americans wondered if we could continue as a nation. Lincoln spoke simply, and said that we had no choice ... that we *had* to go on and redeem the sacrifice, or the sacrifice would be even more incomprehensible.

We must apply that clear thinking to the events that happened here. The best way we can make sense of what happened at Omagh – the only way we can make sense of this tragedy – is to build on it.

The world will not brook a descent into terror. Not in Africa. Not in Bosnia. Not in Northern Ireland. ~~We~~ You have come too far to watch this peace slip away. ~~That defeat would be unacceptable. We will not let it happen.~~ Let the worst paramilitary attack in your old history

also be the last. [This is good but I have taken an opposite tack in the Waterfront speech, saying Omagh was not the last bomb of the Troubles but the first attack on the peace. Also, this won't be the last... We need to decide which way we want to go...] This morning, the Northern Ireland Assembly met for the first time. I was proud to witness it. Your new history begins today.

Life will never be the same in Omagh. But it will go on. Since the bombing, one of the victims, Nicola Emery, has given birth to a healthy baby. I pray that baby will live a long and full life across the 21st century, proud of a hometown that learned through tragedy the meaning of community.

Let me close by quoting a letter written to the U.S. embassy in Dublin. Michael Gallagher, from County Mayo, wrote to Ambassador Smith:

"You don't know me and you may not even get this letter, but after yesterday's tragedy, I just wanted to do something. I am 29 years old and I am an Irishman to the very core of my being, but throughout my life there has never been peace on this island.

I never realized how precious peace could be until my wife Martina gave birth to our daughter Aisling [pronounced] twenty months ago. We don't want her to grow up in a society that is constantly waiting for the next atrocity, the next bunch of young lives snuffed out in a sea of hatred and fear.

Aisling's name means "vision" or "dream" and we have a dream of what Ireland might be like when she grows up. Ireland could be a place where dreams come true, where people would achieve things never imagined before and where people would not be afraid of their neighbours.

~~Hopefully this can happen, but after yesterday one has to wonder.~~

... we know how much America has done for Ireland. All we ask is that you all keep trying even when times are hard ... please keep Ireland in mind because Aisling and all Irish children need to be able to dream."

On behalf of all Americans, I pledge that we will walk with you and work with you to build this peace ... to make this island not only a place where people dream ... but where dreams come true.

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9/2/98 6:35 pm

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS TO THE PEOPLE OF OMAGH
OMAGH, NORTHERN IRELAND
SEPTEMBER 3, 1998**

[acknowledgments]

Today I have returned to this land so deeply linked to my own. Today, I have come to Omagh [OH-muh] to grieve with you over the bomb that killed 28 innocent people on August 15, searing the soul of this island. And I have come to look with you toward the daybreak that always follows the blackest darkness.

When I came to Northern Ireland in 1995, I saw a place filled with promise. I came then with the conviction that a new beginning was possible. I will never forget the people I met and the crowds I saw. It was a moment I shall always remember. It reaffirmed something I believe very deeply ... that our ability to talk and reason is at the core of what it means to be human.

I return today with equally firm convictions. I was appalled and angry to learn of the bombing. But I was inspired to see the people close ranks after the tragedy. We all knew there would be challenges to this peace. This was the hardest challenge conceivable. But you responded with one voice. This peace will survive. It is stronger than ever.

I have come to express my sympathy with the good people of Omagh ... the victims, their families, and the community at large. Sympathy and something more ... I want to share with

you my determined refusal to let this cowardly crime rob you of the new history you chose this spring.

What happened here on August 15 was unspeakable and incomprehensible. It defied reason ... killing people sent to the wrong place. It defied category, killing Catholics and Protestants, young and old, people from Northern Ireland, Ireland, and abroad ... men, women, and children ... even those about to be born. It defied the wonderful, generous spirit of 1998 ... a year in which differences were tabled for the greater good, and people spoke out with a united purpose.

It is time the few stop ruining the lives of the many. It is time those who hate to stop bullying those who hope. A paradox I have never been able to solve is the fact that the most generous, kind-hearted, decent people on earth have wasted so many lives and so many centuries on a conflict that has brought no one victory or happiness. That people so accustomed to the sounds of laughter and song should find them drowned out by explosions, gunfire and sirens. That people so endowed with the gift of language should find their tongues stilled by fear and suspicion.

The authors of this atrocity were not interested in building a better Northern Ireland. They were trying to kill the future. They live in the past. They belong in the past. They will stay in the past.

The people of Northern Ireland have a right to be proud of tradition. That heritage will always be with you. But the time has come to let go of your darker history. It is time for a new

beginning. You are so close. You have come so far. In three short years, what was dismissed as a pipe-dream has become reality. You have renewed faith that decency can triumph over hatred ... that we are worthy of the great capacity for reason our Creator has given to us.

America and Northern Ireland came together in tragedy last month. The bombings in Nairobi and Dar-es-Salaam came only eight days before the bombing here. Today we are together again, resolved to punish those responsible, to triumph over fear, and to realize our higher potential.

The greatest eulogy in my country's history was Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. A gruesome battle had just killed many thousands on both sides, including large numbers of men who spent most of their lives on this island. Many Americans wondered if we could continue as a nation. Lincoln spoke simply, and said that we had no choice ... that we had to go on and redeem the sacrifice, or the sacrifice would be even more incomprehensible.

We must apply that clear thinking to the events that happened here. The best way to make sense of what happened at Omagh – the only way we can make sense of this tragedy – is to build on it.

The world must not brook a descent into terror. Not in Africa. Not in Bosnia. Not in Northern Ireland. You have come too far to watch this peace slip away. Let mindless violence be replaced by open-minded dialogue. Let this bomb be the death knell of extremism. This morning, the members of the Northern Ireland Assembly gathered at Stormont. I was proud to be there. This is the beginning of your new history.

Life will never be the same in Omagh. But it will go on. Since the bombing, one of the victims, Nicola Emery, has given birth to a healthy baby. I pray that baby will live a long and full life across the 21st century, proud of a hometown that learned through tragedy the meaning of community.

Let me close by reading from a letter our ambassador in Dublin received from Michael Gallagher of County Mayo.

“You don’t know me and you may not even get this letter, but after yesterday’s tragedy, I just wanted to do something. I am 29 years old and I am an Irishman to the very core of my being, but throughout my life there has never been peace on this island.

“I never realised how precious peace could be until my wife Martina gave birth to our daughter Aisling [ASH-ling] twenty months ago. We don’t want her to grow up in a society that is constantly waiting for the next atrocity, the next bunch of young lives snuffed out in a sea of hatred and fear.

“Aisling’s name means 'vision' or 'dream' and we have a dream of what Ireland might be like when she grows up. Ireland could be a place where dreams come true, where people would achieve things never imagined before and where people would not be afraid of their neighbours. Hopefully this can happen, but after yesterday one has to wonder.

“...we know how much America has done for Ireland. All we ask is that you all keep trying even when times are hard ... please keep Ireland in mind because Aisling and all Irish children need to be able to dream.”

On behalf of all Americans, I pledge to Aisling in Mayo and Nicola's newborn here in Omagh that we will work with your parents to build this peace ... to make this island not only a place where people dream ... but where dreams can come true.

###

World Day

THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
New World where anything can happen -
where peace can be won
Enough is enough.

Mindless violence must be replaced
by open-minded dialogue; fair-minded
justice.

From this end, let there be a new beginning

~~I believe~~ These are the desperate acts of
cynics who are incapable of ~~understanding~~
anything different. ^{moving forward}
They would like to ^{drive everyone back}
~~drive everyone back~~ ^{to the carnage}

For a long, time there has been

2 Irelands. By this I don't mean
a ~~country~~ ^{place} divided by religion and
ethnicity. I mean something

moment of creation.

The part is
over.

A new history
is beginning.
1988 - a new

Look at Consent Defaults

Democracy is about consent + tolerance. Those words sound pleasant but they can be anything but. It can mean consenting to let an imbecile run a country merely because a lot of people vote for him. It can mean tolerating the most ignorant political opinions of whom we ever heard...

It always means coexisting with people diff from you.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

new split:

not betw/ Caths + Prots

Gov between the many minority
of people who favor violence

+ vast majority who deplore it.

Betw/ past & future.

Fax Cover Sheet

Executive Office, U.S. Embassy Dublin
42 Elgin Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4

Telephone: (353) (1) 668-9374

Fax: (353) (1) 660-3217

Date:

August 20 1998.

To:

Larry Butler
NSC

Fax No:

From:

Amy Seingthaler, Special Assistant

Comment:

Larry - The Ambassador
received the attached letter yesterday.
She thought the President might
like to quote it in one of his
speeches.

Take care and Thanks
Amy

No. of pages, including cover sheet: 3

Copy
→
to
Wickert &
David
Halperin

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Schedule Proposal

date 12 / 28 / 98

ACCEPT REGRET PENDING

TO: Stephanie Streett

FROM: Samuel Berger *(K) for*
Melanne Verveer *md.*

REQUEST: Private meeting with Claire Gallagher from Omagh, Northern Ireland at the Residence.

PURPOSE: Follow up on a promise made during the President's visit to Northern Ireland and to show support for Omagh bombing recovery efforts.

BACKGROUND: The President and First Lady met Ms. Gallagher during their visit to Omagh in September. The First Lady also met Gallagher at the Royal Victorian Hospital in Belfast. Gallagher became blind because of the explosion and hopes to keep playing the piano. She has expressed through two organizations (one, a non-profit "Make a Wish" type foundation, the other is a film producer on contract to the BBC) her wish to play for the President and First Lady at the White House.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: Brief meeting in Omagh; First Lady spent more time in the Belfast hospital.

DATE AND TIME: OPEN

BRIEFING TIME: TBD

DURATION: 30 minutes

LOCATION: Residence

PARTICIPANTS: TBD

OUTLINE OF EVENTS: TBD

REMARKS REQUIRED: Briefing to be provided by the NSC.

MEDIA COVERAGE: TBD.

FIRST LADY'S ATTENDANCE: Requested.

VICE PRESIDENT'S ATTENDANCE: Not required.

RECOMMENDED BY: NSC.

CONTACT: Larry Butler, 6-9151

ORIGIN OF THIS PROPOSAL: Correspondence from Shay Kinsella and Iain Webster

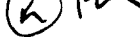


SECOND LADY'S ATTENDANCE: Not required.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

8480

December 22, 1998

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL R. BERGER 
THROUGH: DONALD K. BANDLER 
FROM: LAWRENCE E. BUTLER 
SUBJECT: Omagh Follow-up -- Request for Presidential
meeting

Embassy Dublin forwarded a letter from an Irish non-profit, the "Share a Wish" foundation, asking for assistance in bringing a young Omagh bombing victim, Claire Gallagher, to the White House. Separately, an independent film producer claiming to have a commission from the BBC to make a documentary on Gallagher wrote the First Lady asking for her assistance with the same person.

Coincidentally -- perhaps -- both parties mentioned a second young victim, a boy named Stephen Coyle. The Share a Wish foundation asked for the Embassy's assistance in arranging for a visit to NASA and meeting with an astronaut.

Embassy Dublin and Ki Fort are in the process of vetting the bona fides of the requesting organizations. Dublin is also facilitating contact with NASA for the Share a Wish foundation and will advise us if any assistance is needed.

I have verified with Melanne Verveer that the First Lady met Claire Gallagher both during her visit to the Royal Victorian Hospital in Belfast and again in Omagh at the Community Center. The First Lady would very much like to follow through on the invitation to play the piano at the White House and is prepared to follow our recommendation regarding involvement by the film producers and the Share a Wish people.

Attached is a scheduling proposal for Gallagher's visit to the White House. We will defer to after the holidays on the specifics of how that visit will be arranged given questions I have on the sponsoring organizations, the desirability of

granting exclusive film coverage, and how to handle the potential demonstration effect of an invitation for one person from Omagh.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the scheduling proposal at Tab I.

Attachments

Tab I Scheduling proposal

Tab A Incoming correspondence

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

December 21

Melanne,

Attached are two (competing) sets of correspondence concerning two of the children injured in the Omagh bombing. Both purport a Presidential or First Lady promise to the girl blinded in the blast, Claire Gallagher, to have her play at the White House when she was able. Ki Fort thinks the First Lady may have spoken to Claire in Omagh, but not the President.

Ki and I are worried at what could be exploitation of these children for publicity. I've asked our Embassy to put the Irish "Make a Wish" foundation in contact with NASA regarding the boy who is mentioned. I wonder if you could give me a read on what the First Lady's recollection and preference is for Claire Gallagher. I'd like to leave the foundation and the documentary producer out of the equation -- we find it odd that her family has not contacted us directly.

Larry Butler

NOV 1998



networkmedia

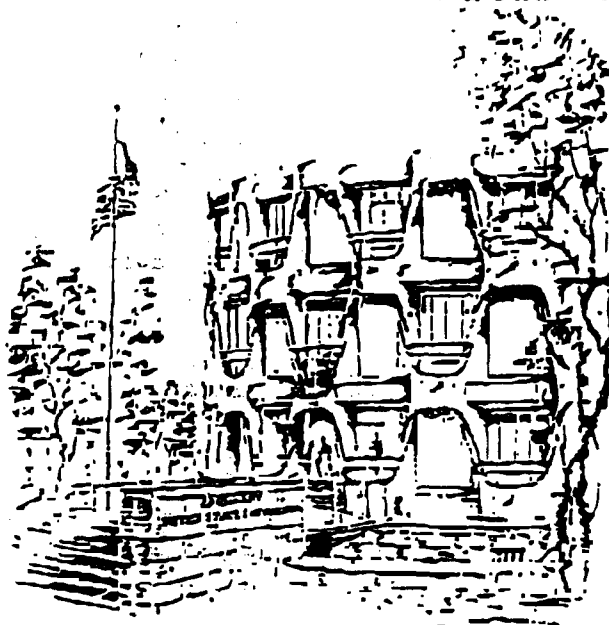
46 My Lady's Mile, Holywood,
Co. Down, Northern Ireland, BT18 9EN.
Tel/Fax 01232 427233
Email: networkmedia@dnet.co.uk

First Lady, Hillary

hesitate to contact

AGU

Embassy of the United States of America



Dublin, Ireland

ck To: Correspondence

FROM: Maeva A. Buckley, U.S. Embassy Dublin Protocol Office

Subject: Enclosed letter regarding Omagh bombing.

No of Pages: 2 (Including this page) Date: December 14, 1998

Comments: Please pass this letter to the appropriate
office. I would appreciate if this could be answered to the
people who wrote the enclosed letter. I have called them to say that
we are passing on the letter to the White House. Thank you for your
help.

FAX: 353-1-660-3217

TEL: 353 - 1 - 6609-378

Protocol Office

Every Child has a Dream....
Help us make them come true for children with life threatening illnesses.

SHARE A DREAM FOUNDATION

HEAD OFFICE
PO Box 66
Limerick, Ireland
Tel: 061-313344
Fax: 061-313344

e-mail: dream@share-dream.ie

Patron: Jack Charlton

American Ambassador,
American Embassy,
42 Eglin Rd,
Dublin 4.

09/12/98

Dear Ambassador,

I am writing to see if you can help me make a dream come true for two very special children and their families.

Stephen Coyle and Claire Gallagher are two children who were seriously injured in the Omagh bombing.

Stephen is 9yrs old. He took a blast in his stomach and suffered severe abdominal injuries and shrapnel damage and has been in hospital since that terrible day. He will spend a long time in and out of hospital for future treatment.

Stephen's dream is to be a real space man and visit N.A.S.A. space centre to see how it all works. He also dreams of visiting Disneyworld in Florida with his family.

Claire Gallagher is 15yrs old who was also in shopping with her friends on that fatal day and lost both her eyes in the bombing due to shrapnel injuries.

Claire is a gifted pianist and dreamed one day of being a concert pianist, which sadly may not happen because of her injuries.

Only now has the realisation of Claire's injuries hit her parents and they are feeling lost, frightened and are trying to adjust to the horrific situation of Claire being blind.

Claire is an amazing young girl who wants to leave the past behind and get on with life. She is now studying braille and playing the piano.

Directors
S. Kinsella - Founder
(People of the Year
Award Recipient)

K. Hayes
L. Broad
C. Brophy

Legal Advisors
Whelan & Co.

Accountants
W. B. Carey & Co.

Registered charitable
non-profit making
organisation
C11Y 10006

Sick Children in Ireland Need a Holiday Home NOW - and YOU CAN HELP US BUILD IT

* When President Clinton met Claire in hospital he promised that when she was better she could come to the White House and play the piano for him and special guests.

Claire also wants to visit Disneyworld with her family as they have all suffered so much trauma these last few months and they would love to get away from it even if it's just for a week.

They have contacted me to see if I can make their dreams come true and bring a little sunshine into their lives after all the darkness.

We will do anything we can to bring these dreams to the very doorsteps of Clare and Stephen and any help we can get to do so, would be so much appreciated.

Can you help us by making contact with the White House and N.A.S.A space centre on our behalf. If you cannot contact us, would you give us the names of the people we can go to directly.

The entire world was shocked at the Omagh bombing but here is an opportunity to refill so much darkness with lots of sunshine.

* President Clinton and his wife made the promise publicly to have Claire in the White House so I have no doubt he will keep his promise. We just need your help to make the dreams become a reality.

Obviously the dreams will attract a lot of publicity on both sides of the Atlantic and it will look wonderful for the American Ambassador and President to be seen to reach out a hand of love and friendship to these two very special children.

I will be happy to meet with you or one of your aids to discuss the proposal.

As we are trying to do this in Jan '99, a quick reply would be really appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Shay
Shay Kinsella,
Founder/Director.



networkmedia

46 My Lady's Mile, Hollywood,
Co. Down, Northern Ireland. BT18 9EN.
Tel/Fax 01232 427265
Email: networkmedia@dnnet.co.uk

2004
Mrs Hillary Clinton,
The First Lady's Office,
The White House,
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue,
Washington DC
20500

12.11.98

Dear Mrs Clinton,

My name is Iain Webster. I have worked for the BBC in Northern Ireland since 1982. Until recently I was Editor of the evening TV news programme, and I am now a freelance film maker.

I have been commissioned by the BBC nationally to direct, produce and film a 50 minute documentary which has the provisional title : " Omagh - the Legacy of Pain."

It stems from the dreadful events of August 15th when the "Real IRA" bomb exploded in the town killing 28 people and injuring more than 300 others. Another person has since died, from this, the worst terrorist atrocity in the history of the "Troubles."

I have made contact with just two of the dozens of young people who were badly injured in the blast.

They, and their parents, are allowing me to film them over the next twelve months as they take the long road to recovery.

Stephen Coyle is ten and from Strabane. He has a major shoulder injury and spent six weeks in hospital - undergoing twelve operations. He nearly died.

Claire Gallagher, who you met during your visit, is 15 and from Omagh itself. She has lost the sight of both eyes - a devastating injury, but her sheer bravery and determination is amazing.

My documentary takes the viewer through the children's time in hospital and through to the important events in their very altered lives.

With Stephen and his parent Francis and Linda I have filmed his plastic surgery, physiotherapy, saying goodbye to the nursing staff, returning to Omagh to visit the bomb site. I've just filmed a sequence with his consultant surgeon who says Stephen has made an amazing recovery considering the severity of his injury.

Claire is determined to fulfil her dream to become a pianist - even though she heard four weeks ago that she will never see again.

Thankfully music is the one thing the bomb couldn't take away from her. I have filmed her on a day trip with her parents, three sisters and brother, to the Ulster American Folk Park, where she speaks bravely about being caught in the explosion.

I have her on tape playing piano alongside Phil Coulter at a charity soccer match, and Phil is going to give her a personal piano lesson after Christmas. She met Garth Brooks just this week. She plans to complete the very demanding Duke of Edinburgh Award in the Spring.

Claire's family mentioned to me that you had said to Claire that when she was feeling better it would be wonderful if she could play for you and the President.

What I am wondering is, is that a real possibility?

If it is, I would get Claire and her parents to America to include that very poignant moment in the documentary.

I just heard from my colleagues at the BBC in London that you may be asked to send a message to Claire for a special Christmas Day TV programme.

Actor Liam Neeson is considering my request to present my film. It is due to be broadcast in August next year, and will be seen across the world.

Claire's mum and dad, Marie and Seamus, know I am writing to you.

I should have finished filming by May and would like to have the film completed by July.

Adding your presence to this incredible story of two children's bravery would make a powerful contribution to the documentary.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TELEPHONE CALL WITH
PRIME MINISTER TONY BLAIR

DATE: September 11, 1998

LOCATION: Oval Office

TIME: 4:15 - 4:35 p.m.

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER

I. PURPOSE

To discuss further steps in the Northern Ireland peace process to follow up your visit, as well as review developments in Russia and note that you will see him in New York on September 21.

II. BACKGROUND

Northern Ireland. Your visit last week helped unlock a growing logjam on Good Friday Accord implementation (Adams statements on violence and this week's first-ever Adams-Trimble meeting), but the decommissioning-Shadow executive deal is proving elusive. Tony Blair will want to outline his ideas for a second round of steps that could get Adams and Trimble over their respective hurdles.

Trimble delivered on his promise to you last week to meet with Gerry Adams. He engaged Adams in direct dialogue at a multilateral event Monday, and then had an one-on-one yesterday. ~~Trimble paid a price, though. Three UWP Assembly members quit the party, putting Trimble's majority at risk; the anti-accord unionists group can now trigger the special "sufficient consensus" voting mechanism. Trimble will have to appeal to the pro-accord but non-aligned Assembly members (Women's Coalition and Alliance) to register as unionists for tactical voting reasons.~~

Adams and Trimble agreed to meet again next week. The next events are the September 14-15 meeting of the new Assembly, which will be followed by announcement of a final round of consultations September 28-29 before Trimble moves forward

on naming the new Executive. This allows three weeks to finalize a decommissioning deal.

Trimble could be toppled as UUP leader next month at the party convention if he were to put SF into the Executive absent an actual act of decommissioning. However, starting decommissioning in exchange for seats on the Executive is more than Adams can sell to IRA hardliners. As Bertie Ahern outlined, he and Blair are working to exploit the RIRA cease-fire and lessened security threat to sell the consequent drawdown in the British security presence as "demilitarization," to secure an IRA unilateral response (explosion of Semtex that could be verified afterwards).

Adams
has
been
sent

Adams
has
been
sent

A down payment was made yesterday when Chief Constable Flanagan announced that he no longer needs British Army patrols to protect the police in Belfast, which has been understood as a prelude to UK troop withdrawals. ~~The risk to the British is that they could be accused of legitimizing the IRA if they were to engage in a force drawdown exercise with terrorists. This will require you, Blair and Ahern to engage in very quiet and personal diplomacy to set up the choreography that gives Trimble cover to let Sinn Fein into the Executive, allows the IRA to spin to their folk the decommissioning, and protects Blair from accusations of appeasement.~~

We have some upcoming leverage with Adams. He is planning a visit to the United States in October, and will undoubtedly seek an Oval Office meeting; this would be appropriate if he is in the Executive and engaged in decommissioning.

Russia. Primakov's nomination is likely to sail through confirmation on Friday. Early indications about the makeup of the cabinet are not encouraging. Gorbachev-era figures such as Gerashchenko and Maslyukov have the inside track for the Central Bank and macroeconomic czar positions, respectively. Gerashchenko is the man who tried to solve Russia's problems in 1992 by printing money to keep factories open, sparking 25% monthly inflation. Maslyukov has similar views. If the downward spiral continues, it will likely accelerate. The impacts are predictable: runaway inflation, further erosion of the currency, food shortages, the industrial sector goes idle, black markets, crime and corruption become pervasive.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with Sinn Fein Leader Gerry Adams (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Gerry Adams

Notetakers: Joel Schrader, Jenny McGee,
Miles Murphy, Matt Sibley, Robert Ford and
Lawrence Butler

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: April 1, 1999, 6:14 - 6:20 a.m. EST
The Residence

The President: Hello, Gerry. (U)

Mr. Adams: You're up very early. (U)

The President: I've been briefed on where you guys are now. I think the Prime Ministers are very worried about a two-week delay and I just called to ask if there's anything that can be done to do it quicker. (S)

Mr. Adams: I understand you have been trying to get in contact. I was in with Tony and Bertie. I don't know but I think we may have an agreement that, even though there would be a two-week timeframe, I would probably get back an indication quicker than that; can't say. (S)

I stepped out from the talks to make this call. We are actually against an adjournment. What we have done is told the government that this is not working the way that they wanted. Nonetheless, we went back in and gave the government our best assessment, and now that they're undertaking to try it again. We would have preferred more time, but they went against our own advice. So we have jumped before we were shoved. (S)

We are against an adjournment. We need cover. The thing that will guarantee this is that we're not ganging up with everyone else against the IRA. We just have to believe that it's going

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Reason: 1.5(d)
Declassify On: 4/1/09

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8/6/15 KBH

to be managed. We moved from that position to doing what they wanted us to do. (S)

The President: In other words you think there's some way you can give him some sort of assurance -- (S)

Mr. Adams: Very definitely assured. We have to sort this out. We have suffered our first defeat in terms of the internal management. Secondly, we cannot guarantee anything else other than our very, very best to get back to them as quickly as possible to let them know how we're getting it on and what has happened. (S)

The President: Yes. Let me ask you this, how will it work if privately you can tell them... why do you want to wait two weeks before you go public? (S)

Mr. Adams: We have actually suggested that they call bilaterals on Tuesday a week from now. We need more time, then, to get away from any prescribed timeframe which engages people. Obviously, if we can get back to them with some indication in four days, three days, two days. We'll do all of that. We don't want to go to the far extreme of any timetable. (S)

The President: Okay, I got it. (S)

Mr. Adams: Is that fair enough? We need space and cover to make this work, and the last thing we want is public speculation. The last thing we want is to have Sinn Fein seen as ganging up on the IRA because that will get people's backs up and make our jobs harder. We will get back with them with honest soundings and that clearly will help them well within the two weeks. (S)

The President: Okay. I understand. (S)

Mr. Adams: I'm going back in to see Tony and Bertie within minutes here. Do you want me to call you back? (S)

The President: I will just call you back if we need to talk again. (S)

Mr. Adams: Good luck. Thanks. (U)

The President: Goodbye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --