

For Immediate Release

March 17, 1993

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT,
PRIME MINISTER REYNOLDS AND AMBASSADOR JEAN KENNEDY SMITH
IN ANNUAL PRESENTATION OF BOWL OF SHAMROCKS

The Roosevelt Room

12:07 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Good day, ladies and gentlemen. On this St. Patrick's Day, I am delighted to welcome Prime Minister Reynolds, called Taoiseach in his country, to the White House. We both share a love of music and a love of Ireland, and I'm looking forward to working with him in the years ahead.

I accept with honor this beautiful bowl of shamrocks he has presented from the people of Ireland to the people of the United States. And it will be proudly displayed in the White House as symbol of our shared values and common heritage.

The Prime Minister's visit is an opportunity not only to recall our kinship, but also to work together on issues of critical importance to both our nations. We just concluded a good meeting, which covered many issues, and I benefitted greatly from the Prime Minister's advice and counsel.

We discussed the importance of bringing the Uruguay Round to a successful conclusion. We reviewed the humanitarian relief effort in Somalia, including the generous contributions of Irish citizens working in such organizations as CONCERN and UNICEF.

Let me take a moment here, Mr. Prime Minister, to extend to the families and friends of Valerie Place and Sean Devereux the heartfelt condolences of the American people over their tragic deaths and our gratitude for their service. Their dedication to the relief efforts in Somalia will serve as an inspiration to us as we seek to extend the hand of comfort to victims of strife.

The Prime Minister and I also discussed the continuing tragic conflicts in Northern Ireland that has cost 3,000 lives over the last two decades. I congratulate both the Irish and the British governments for their joint efforts to promote the necessary dialogue to bring about a just and lasting peace.

And I want to underscore my strong support for that important goal. We agree that such an outcome cannot be coerced or imposed, and that those who resort to violence must not be tolerated. Violence condemns generation to harvest the seeds of bitterness, not peace. Nor can the problem be resolved by the language of victories or defeats. It must be resolved in the language and spirit of compromise and conciliation.

I told the Prime Minister that the United States stands ready to do whatever we can to help in bringing peace to Northern Ireland. We are a nation of diversity. We are prepared to help in any way that we can. I think that it is important to say that the most significant thing I should be doing now is to encourage the

encourage investment and economic growth and to advance the cause of peace and tolerance.

My discussions with Prime Minister Reynolds, as with Prime Minister Major, were the first of many that I think you will see our governments having as we offer our assistance in trying to end the troubles.

Let me close by saying that the ties of culture, history and friendship between the United States and Ireland mean a great deal to me. Last night the Prime Minister and I joined together in singing "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling." He did a slightly better job than I did. (Laughter.) Today we pause to renew our ties to Ireland and the challenges ahead.

Let me add that Ireland will have a friend in the White House, Mr. Prime Minister, not just on St. Patrick's Day, but on every day of the year.

I also want to take advantage of the Prime Minister's visit here to announce my intention to nominate as Ambassador to Ireland a distinguished individual, as Irish as Americans can be, Jean Kennedy Smith. I can think of no one who better captures the bonds between Ireland and the United States or who will work harder to advance our relationship. In many ways she's already been an unofficial international ambassador. Since she founded Very Special Arts two decades ago, she has traveled tirelessly throughout the United States and the world. Very Special Arts provides opportunities for the disabled and creative arts in all 50 states and over 50 countries, including Ireland. As a testament to her success, a play from her young playwrights program in Dublin will open shortly off Broadway.

I know firsthand Jean's achievements from the Arkansas Very Special Arts program and remember well when Hillary joined her in our state for the competition to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the White House.

The people of the United States will be proud of our new ambassador. I am proud of her, and I'm glad to have a couple of her relatives -- the Senator from the State of Massachusetts and Congressman Kennedy -- to join with us today. And Mr. Ambassador, let me say again how very grateful we are to you and offer you the opportunity to make a few remarks and then offer Mrs. Smith.

MRS. SMITH: Thank you very much. It is a great honor for me to be nominated as Ambassador to Ireland. And I'm extremely grateful to President Clinton for his confidence in me. I will do all I can to repay this confidence. It's a wonderful St. Patrick's Day. Thank you. (Applause.)

PRIME MINISTER REYNOLDS: Thank you, President. And, first of all, may I take the first opportunity of saying -- (spoken in Gaelic) -- which is congratulations to Jean Kennedy Smith to be the U.S. Ambassador to Ireland. The U.S. is proud of her. We are more proud still to welcome home Jean Kennedy-Smith. She has been a regular visitor to our shores. She has done marvelous work throughout the world, as the President has just said, in relation to her work for the disabled arts. And I know she'll get plenty of opportunity to continue that creative work in Ireland.

Thank you, President -- (spoken in Gaelic).

St. Patrick's Day, Mr. President, is an occasion which

a deep abiding and shared belief in democracy and freedom and in the protection and extension of human rights.

It was because these values were incorporated in the foundation of the American republic that Thomas Jefferson could proclaim in his first inaugural address what might then have seemed a paradox. And I quote: "I believe this, the strongest government on Earth."

It is a day and this is a unique occasion standing as we are here in the house which, as President Clinton remarked last night at that very enjoyable function, that this house was designed just over 200 years ago by an Irishman, James Hoban. That's one of the reasons why we are contemplating the extraordinary success of Irish America.

You will have no difficulty, Mr. President, if on this day I characterize you, you yourself, as reflecting on that Irish American success story. Like John F. Kennedy, Ronald Reagan, Andrew Jackson, Ulysses S. Grant and other presidents of Irish extraction before you, you have risen to the highest position in the land adopted by your ancestors and demonstrated again that the great American Dream, which inspired so many of your forbearers is alive and well and in very good hands.

The success story that is Irish America today began as one of political, economic and social struggle in the home country. It should not be surprising therefore that when the earlier waves of our immigrants reached these shores, they were to the forefront in the American war of independence and in the drafting and promulgation of the American Declaration of Independence; and that later waves of immigrants quickly and enthusiastically embraced that declaration, to quote just one historian: "not as a tired formula, but as an ideal to be reached out for and grasped."

It is against that background, Mr. President, for I have always believed that the constructive interest and support of the United States has the potential to be uniquely helpful in finding a solution to the situation in Northern Ireland -- that last residual problem of a long and often sad history between Ireland and Britain.

My government are determined not to allow another generation to suffer the scourge and savagery of violence or its demeaning and related manifestations -- disadvantage, harassment and discrimination.

There are no immediate answers, no simple solutions, but there is a way forward. It involves courage, commitment and imagination. It will require, above all, the letting go of all vestiges of triumphalism on every side, and replacing it with a willingness and a determination to work together in partnership within new structures, which will embrace and seek to reconcile the two conflicting rights and aspirations in our small country.

We warmly welcome your concern, Mr. President, your commitment and your active support as we take on this daunting but vital challenge. If we can succeed, Mr. President, in establishing in Ireland structures that achieve these goals, the benefits may not just be for Ireland alone. In a world where deeper ethnic divisions have assumed a new and violent prominence, it may well be that the model we create in Ireland will have application and similar conflict situations around the world.

So in conclusion Mr. President may I thank you again

homes and built their dreams in this great land. For many of us
proud.

As we travel together now for a gathering on Capitol Hill, hosted by another outstanding Irishman, Speaker Foley, may I extend to you, Mrs. Clinton and your family, our warmest best wishes on this very special day for all of us and convey our sincerest wish for the success of your administration.

(Spoken in Gaelic) -- I hope Americans of all ethnic backgrounds have a wonderful St. Patrick's Day. And what a day in which to celebrate it here with one of us as President, another, Albert here on my right, and the Kennedy family that are a legend in Ireland, the United States and throughout the world. (Spoken in Gaelic). (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: That was such an outstanding performance, I think the Prime Minister should have to answer all the questions.

Q Have you decided, Mr. President, whether or not to send a peace envoy or to send a fact-finding mission to Northern Ireland? And could you give us some idea of a time frame for that action, please?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I discussed it with the Prime Minister. And we decided after our consultations, that is certainly an option that I should leave open -- both of those options -- and have under serious consideration.

As you know, talks began last year and then were suspended. I'm very hopeful that the British and the Irish governments will get back together and begin a serious dialogue soon. I think that is a precondition, as I said, for the other talks proceeding. And I'm going to stay in touch closely with Prime Minister Reynolds. We're going to talk frequently, and I expect to have an ambassador in Ireland pretty soon. And I'll make those decisions at what seems to me to be the appropriate time. I have not made them now, and I don't think it would be appropriate to make a final decision on that at this time.

Q Can we ask the Prime Minister if he likes the idea of a special envoy, opposes it, or would like to --

PRIME MINISTER REYNOLDS: I think we had a very long and fruitful discussion, both the President and myself. I gave him a fairly quick synopsis of the whole situation -- the relationship between the two governments that are excellent, between Dublin and London, the talks that took place last year, the progress that was made there, the suspension of the talks. And I think the objective of both of us, and, indeed, the British government included, would be to get those talks resumed at an earlier stage.

We fully appreciate the keen interest and support of President Clinton in this regard and of his burning desire to have those talks recommenced. And he will keep in close consultation with all parties concerned so that we can get those talks resumed at the earliest possible date.

Q You don't think that a special envoy at this point would be helpful?

PRIME MINISTER REYNOLDS: As you have heard, the President just confirmed that both of those options are left open,

PRESIDENT CLINTON: Well, I don't think the United States can make peace in Northern Ireland, and I don't think that the unionists, the nationalists, anyone else would expect that. I think that we have a deep concern about the future of Ireland. We have a deep concern about ending the violence and the abuses of humanity which have been there. And I want to do whatever I can to support that process.

I do believe -- I'll say again -- I do believe that the dialogue that was opened not all that long ago between these two governments in Ireland and Great Britain offer the real chance of producing a framework within which peace could occur. And I am going to continue to stay on top of the situation, involved in it. And I'll make those decisions at a later time when I think they are appropriate.

I think it is inappropriate now for me to do more than just to say that I think the government should in earnest embrace the opportunities that are before them. And I will be as supportive as I can. And whenever there seems to be something else I can do by taking further action, then I will do it. I don't want to do anything to undermine the peace process; I want to do something that will support it and reinforce it.

Q Mr. President, what about Secretary Aspin's health? Do you have to now consider, at least consider, having a new Secretary of Defense?

THE PRESIDENT: No, people get pacemakers all the time. No. As far as I know he's just doing fine.

Q Mr. President, do you still support the McBride principles which you said in your meeting with Irish leaders in New York --

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, I do. What did you say about Ray Flynn?

Q Aren't you concerned the country may be losing -- better mayors?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, I am. (Laughter.)

MS. MYERS: Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: It was a difficult decision for that reason. I think he's one of the best mayors to serve in the United States in my lifetime.

Q Why did you offer him the job?

THE PRESIDENT: Because I need him and because I think he'll do a great job in a whole wide range of areas. And he was willing to serve, and I want him in the administration.

Thank you.

END

12:22 P.M. EST

For Immediate Release

March 17, 1993

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT,
PRIME MINISTER REYNOLDS AND AMBASSADOR JEAN KENNEDY SMITH
IN ANNUAL PRESENTATION OF BOWL OF SHAMROCKS

The Roosevelt Room

12:07 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Good day, ladies and gentlemen. On this St. Patrick's Day, I am delighted to welcome Prime Minister Reynolds, called Taoiseach in his country, to the White House. We both share a love of music and a love of Ireland, and I'm looking forward to working with him in the years ahead.

I accept with honor this beautiful bowl of shamrocks he has presented from the people of Ireland to the people of the United States. And it will be proudly displayed in the White House as symbol of our shared values and common heritage.

The Prime Minister's visit is an opportunity not only to recall our kinship, but also to work together on issues of critical importance to both our nations. We just concluded a good meeting, which covered many issues, and I benefitted greatly from the Prime Minister's advice and counsel.

We discussed the importance of bringing the Uruguay Round to a successful conclusion. We reviewed the humanitarian relief effort in Somalia, including the generous contributions of Irish citizens working in such organizations as CONCERN and UNICEF.

Let me take a moment here, Mr. Prime Minister, to extend to the families and friends of Valerie Place and Sean Devereux the heartfelt condolences of the American people over their tragic deaths and our gratitude for their service. Their dedication to the relief efforts in Somalia will serve as an inspiration to us as we seek to extend the hand of comfort to victims of strife.

The Prime Minister and I also discussed the continuing tragic conflicts in Northern Ireland that has cost 3,000 lives over the last two decades. I congratulate both the Irish and the British governments for their joint efforts to promote the necessary dialogue to bring about a just and lasting peace.

And I want to underscore my strong support for that important goal. We agree that such an outcome cannot be coerced or imposed, and that those who resort to violence must not be tolerated. Violence condemns generation to harvest the seeds of bitterness, not peace. Nor can the problem be resolved by the language of victories or defeats. It must be resolved in the language and spirit of compromise and conciliation.

I told the Prime Minister that the United States stands ready to do whatever we can to help in bringing peace to Northern Ireland. We are a nation of diversity. We are prepared to help in any way that we can. I think that it is important to say that the most significant thing I should be doing now is to encourage the

encourage investment and economic growth and to advance the cause of peace and tolerance.

My discussions with Prime Minister Reynolds, as with Prime Minister Major, were the first of many that I think you will see our governments having as we offer our assistance in trying to end the troubles.

Let me close by saying that the ties of culture, history and friendship between the United States and Ireland mean a great deal to me. Last night the Prime Minister and I joined together in singing "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling." He did a slightly better job than I did. (Laughter.) Today we pause to renew our ties to Ireland and the challenges ahead.

Let me add that Ireland will have a friend in the White House, Mr. Prime Minister, not just on St. Patrick's Day, but on every day of the year.

I also want to take advantage of the Prime Minister's visit here to announce my intention to nominate as Ambassador to Ireland a distinguished individual, as Irish as Americans can be, Jean Kennedy Smith. I can think of no one who better captures the bonds between Ireland and the United States or who will work harder to advance our relationship. In many ways she's already been an unofficial international ambassador. Since she founded Very Special Arts two decades ago, she has traveled tirelessly throughout the United States and the world. Very Special Arts provides opportunities for the disabled and creative arts in all 50 states and over 50 countries, including Ireland. As a testament to her success, a play from her young playwrights program in Dublin will open shortly off Broadway.

I know firsthand Jean's achievements from the Arkansas Very Special Arts program and remember well when Hillary joined her in our state for the competition to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the White House.

The people of the United States will be proud of our new ambassador. I am proud of her, and I'm glad to have a couple of her relatives -- the Senator from the State of Massachusetts and Congressman Kennedy -- to join with us today. And Mr. Ambassador, let me say again how very grateful we are to you and offer you the opportunity to make a few remarks and then offer Mrs. Smith.

MRS. SMITH: Thank you very much. It is a great honor for me to be nominated as Ambassador to Ireland. And I'm extremely grateful to President Clinton for his confidence in me. I will do all I can to repay this confidence. It's a wonderful St. Patrick's Day. Thank you. (Applause.)

PRIME MINISTER REYNOLDS: Thank you, President. And, first of all, may I take the first opportunity of saying -- (spoken in Gaelic) -- which is congratulations to Jean Kennedy Smith to be the U.S. Ambassador to Ireland. The U.S. is proud of her. We are more proud still to welcome home Jean Kennedy-Smith. She has been a regular proud visitor to our shores. She has done marvelous work throughout the world, as the President has just said, in relation to her work for the disabled arts. And I know she'll get plenty of opportunity to continue that creative work in Ireland.

Thank you, President -- (spoken in Gaelic).

St. Patrick's Day, Mr. President, is an occasion which

a deep abiding and shared belief in democracy and freedom and in the protection and extension of human rights.

It was because these values were incorporated in the foundation of the American republic that Thomas Jefferson could proclaim in his first inaugural address what might then have seemed a paradox. And I quote: "I believe this, the strongest government on Earth."

It is a day and this is a unique occasion standing as we are here in the house which, as President Clinton remarked last night at that very enjoyable function, that this house was designed just over 200 years ago by an Irishman, James Hoban. That's one of the reasons why we are contemplating the extraordinary success of Irish America.

You will have no difficulty, Mr. President, if on this day I characterize you, you yourself, as reflecting on that Irish American success story. Like John F. Kennedy, Ronald Reagan, Andrew Jackson, Ulysses S. Grant and other presidents of Irish extraction before you, you have risen to the highest position in the land adopted by your ancestors and demonstrated again that the great American Dream, which inspired so many of your forbearers is alive and well and in very good hands.

The success story that is Irish America today began as one of political, economic and social struggle in the home country. It should not be surprising therefore that when the earlier waves of our immigrants reached these shores, they were to the forefront in the American war of independence and in the drafting and promulgation of the American Declaration of Independence; and that later waves of immigrants quickly and enthusiastically embraced that declaration, to quote just one historian: "not as a tired formula, but as an ideal to be reached out for and grasped."

It is against that background, Mr. President, for I have always believed that the constructive interest and support of the United States has the potential to be uniquely helpful in finding a solution to the situation in Northern Ireland -- that last residual problem of a long and often sad history between Ireland and Britain.

My government are determined not to allow another generation to suffer the scourge and savagery of violence or its demeaning and related manifestations -- disadvantage, harassment and discrimination.

There are no immediate answers, no simple solutions, but there is a way forward. It involves courage, commitment and imagination. It will require, above all, the letting go of all vestiges of triumphalism on every side, and replacing it with a willingness and a determination to work together in partnership within new structures, which will embrace and seek to reconcile the two conflicting rights and aspirations in our small country.

We warmly welcome your concern, Mr. President, your commitment and your active support as we take on this daunting but vital challenge. If we can succeed, Mr. President, in establishing in Ireland structures that achieve these goals, the benefits may not just be for Ireland alone. In a world where deeper ethnic divisions have assumed a new and violent prominence, it may well be that the model we create in Ireland will have application and similar conflict situations around the world.

So in conclusion Mr. President may I thank you again

homes and built their dreams in this great land. For many of us
proud.

As we travel together now for a gathering on Capitol Hill, hosted by another outstanding Irishman, Speaker Foley, may I extend to you, Mrs. Clinton and your family, our warmest best wishes on this very special day for all of us and convey our sincerest wish for the success of your administration.

(Spoken in Gaelic) -- I hope Americans of all ethnic backgrounds have a wonderful St. Patrick's Day. And what a day in which to celebrate it here with one of us as President, another, Albert here on my right, and the Kennedy family that are a legend in Ireland, the United States and throughout the world. (Spoken in Gaelic). (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: That was such an outstanding performance, I think the Prime Minister should have to answer all the questions.

Q Have you decided, Mr. President, whether or not to send a peace envoy or to send a fact-finding mission to Northern Ireland? And could you give us some idea of a time frame for that action, please?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I discussed it with the Prime Minister. And we decided after our consultations, that is certainly an option that I should leave open -- both of those options -- and have under serious consideration.

As you know, talks began last year and then were suspended. I'm very hopeful that the British and the Irish governments will get back together and begin a serious dialogue soon. I think that is a precondition, as I said, for the other talks proceeding. And I'm going to stay in touch closely with Prime Minister Reynolds. We're going to talk frequently, and I expect to have an ambassador in Ireland pretty soon. And I'll make those decisions at what seems to me to be the appropriate time. I have not made them now, and I don't think it would be appropriate to make a final decision on that at this time.

Q Can we ask the Prime Minister if he likes the idea of a special envoy, opposes it, or would like to --

PRIME MINISTER REYNOLDS: I think we had a very long and fruitful discussion, both the President and myself. I gave him a fairly quick synopsis of the whole situation -- the relationship between the two governments that are excellent, between Dublin and London, the talks that took place last year, the progress that was made there, the suspension of the talks. And I think the objective of both of us, and, indeed, the British government included, would be to get those talks resumed at an earlier stage.

We fully appreciate the keen interest and support of President Clinton in this regard and of his burning desire to have those talks recommenced. And he will keep in close consultation with all parties concerned so that we can get those talks resumed at the earliest possible date.

Q You don't think that a special envoy at this point would be helpful?

PRIME MINISTER REYNOLDS: As you have heard, the President just confirmed that both of those options are left open,

PRESIDENT CLINTON: Well, I don't think the United States can make peace in Northern Ireland, and I don't think that the unionists, the nationalists, anyone else would expect that. I think that we have a deep concern about the future of Ireland. We have a deep concern about ending the violence and the abuses of humanity which have been there. And I want to do whatever I can to support that process.

I do believe -- I'll say again -- I do believe that the dialogue that was opened not all that long ago between these two governments in Ireland and Great Britain offer the real chance of producing a framework within which peace could occur. And I am going to continue to stay on top of the situation, involved in it. And I'll make those decisions at a later time when I think they are appropriate.

I think it is inappropriate now for me to do more than just to say that I think the government should in earnest embrace the opportunities that are before them. And I will be as supportive as I can. And whenever there seems to be something else I can do by taking further action, then I will do it. I don't want to do anything to undermine the peace process; I want to do something that will support it and reinforce it.

Q Mr. President, what about Secretary Aspin's health? Do you have to now consider, at least consider, having a new Secretary of Defense?

THE PRESIDENT: No, people get pacemakers all the time. No. As far as I know he's just doing fine.

Q Mr. President, do you still support the McBride principles which you said in your meeting with Irish leaders in New York --

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, I do. What did you say about Ray Flynn?

Q Aren't you concerned the country may be losing -- better mayors?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, I am. (Laughter.)

MS. MYERS: Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: It was a difficult decision for that reason. I think he's one of the best mayors to serve in the United States in my lifetime.

Q Why did you offer him the job?

THE PRESIDENT: Because I need him and because I think he'll do a great job in a whole wide range of areas. And he was willing to serve, and I want him in the administration.

Thank you.

END

12:22 P.M. EST

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D C 20506

December 14, 1993

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

THROUGH: JENONNE WALKER

FROM: JANE E. HOLM

SUBJECT: Travel of Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith to Northern Ireland

OK
CAL

In your November 4 discussion with members of the Ad Hoc Congressional Committee for Irish Affairs, you indicated a desire to have Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith travel more frequently to Northern Ireland. Smith's travel outside of her jurisdiction for political purposes was an extremely contentious issue, resolved earlier this year by a decision of Secretary Christopher (with ~~your concurrence~~) to have her make on the order of two to three trips per year.

no. overruled
we didn't
push.

Since arriving in Dublin on June 21, Smith has made two trips to Northern Ireland: once in August (to Derry as John Hume's house guest), and once in September to Belfast. She hopes to go again in February; the Embassy is finalizing her plans. State is inclined to approve her trip.

Increasing Smith's travel and visibility beyond that agreed and planned should make sense in the current context. Major and Reynolds have already met twice in December and plan another meeting to issue a joint statement that all hope will provide important impetus to renewing the political dialogue and achieving a sustained cessation of violence. We, of course, want to be active in constructive ways to maintain the positive momentum and not permit things to be derailed. In this context, (and not surprisingly) State feels strongly that the program of travel agreed by you and Christopher should remain intact -- not least because they believe official cross-border travel by Ambassadors seems to create more problems than it solves, and this is not the time to send mixed messages.

It is important that our efforts help keep the parties focused on moving forward in the search for peace and meaningful dialogue; a judicious increase in Smith's travel may be one way to do just that. But rather than undertake a formal review of the issue with an eye toward institutionalizing that increase, you may want to encourage State to take a liberal view, on a case basis, of her requests to visit Northern Ireland. If you want a formal decision to increase Smith's travel frequency beyond that agreed and planned, you will have to revisit this issue directly with Secretary Christopher.

✓

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Declassify on: OADR

TL - I don't think its worth reopening formally. If you can get Chris to agree to more, we could tell Jean that we'll push in a case by

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 13526

White House Guidelines, September 11, 2006

By M NARA Date 12/15/05

74-0155-7

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Nancy

9128 REDO

Dee's
copy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 30, 1994

MEETING WITH
SENATOR GEORGE MITCHELL

DATE: December 1, 1994

LOCATION: The Oval Office

TIME: 10:15am

FROM: ANTHONY LAKE *AL*

I. PURPOSE

To announce Senator Mitchell's appointment as Special Advisor to the President and the Secretary of State for Economic Initiatives in Ireland.

II. BACKGROUND

Senator Mitchell has agreed to a 130 day appointment as your and the Secretary of State's Special Advisor for Economic Initiatives in Ireland. We envision Senator Mitchell using this position to oversee the White House Conference on Trade and Investment in Ireland scheduled for April 1995 in Philadelphia, establish a dialogue with the European Union and other appropriate countries to encourage continued cooperation in economic initiatives to support peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the border counties, and consult with the International Fund for Ireland, the Congress and others to strengthen the IFI's programs, mandate and level of support.

You and Senator Mitchell may be asked by the press about the status of Gerry Adams' latest visa application and about Sinn Fein's exclusion from Prime Minister Major's December 13 investment conference in Belfast, which Ron Brown is attending. On Adams, we are prepared to issue him a 3 month multiple-entry visa and have invited him to meet with Anthony Lake. The fundraising restrictions will remain in place for the time being. He has accepted our invitation, however, and will be here on December 7. On Major's conference, we are talking to the British about ways to resolve the controversy over Sinn Fein's exclusion. In any event, Secretary Brown's trip to Northern Ireland and the Republic this month is set; it will be an important effort to encourage greater trade and investment in Northern Ireland and the affected border counties of the Republic.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Declassify on: OADR

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 13526

White House Guidelines, September 11, 2006

By *M* NARA, Date *1/5/06*

101-0355-F

III. PARTICIPANTS

U.S.

The President
Senator Mitchell
Strobe Talbott
Anthony Lake
Ambassador Crowe
Secretary Brown
Nancy Soderberg

U.K.

Ambassador Robin Renwick

Ireland

Charge' Michael Collins

IV. PRESS PLAN

Open pool

V. SEQUENCE

Short (5 minutes) meeting with Mitchell in the private dining room. Then walk with Mitchell into Oval for Presidential announcement. Mitchell also makes a statement and you will take 2-3 questions.

Attachments

Tab A Points to be Made
Tab B Proposed Presidential Remarks
Tab C Press Release
Tab D Press Qs and As
Tab E Senator Mitchell's Statement

11/30/94 9 p.m.

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS AT MEETING WITH SENATOR GEORGE MITCHELL
DECEMBER 1, 1994
THE WHITE HOUSE**

Today is the last day of this session of Congress and therefore the last day that we have the privilege of having Senator Mitchell as Majority Leader of the Senate. I personally will miss his help in Congress and his wise counsel. And I know that colleagues on both sides of the aisle and the American people will miss the leadership, thoughtfulness and courage that have distinguished him as one of the great political figures of our time.

My regret at Senator Mitchell's retirement is tempered -- at least in part -- by the fact that as one chapter in his life of extraordinary public service ends another is beginning: Today, Senator Mitchell has agreed to work on an issue of central importance as Special Advisor to me and Secretary Christopher for Economic Initiatives in Ireland.

We stand at the verge of a new and peaceful era in Northern Ireland. For over three months, the historic ceasefire between the IRA and the loyalist paramilitary groups has held. A just and lasting settlement that respects the rights and traditions of the two communities in Northern Ireland is, after so many generations of bloodshed, within reach.

But at this hopeful, historic moment, it is essential to create more economic opportunity in a region whose prospects have long been blighted by bloodshed. Peace and prosperity depend on one another. One of the most important ways we can help to ensure that peace takes root is to help promote trade and investment in the areas both in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland that have suffered most from the violence.

That's why last month we announced our economic initiatives for Ireland. They are a response to the call of all the parties in the region for development that will help them lift themselves out of the cycle of conflict. As we have in the past, the U.S. stands ready to help those who are taking the risks for peace. To do that, we will work in close cooperation with the private sector in the U.S., and with Britain, Ireland and with other concerned nations in Europe and other elsewhere.

Ultimately, the success of the peace process will depend on whether those who have been most affected believe it will deliver a better future for them. That is why our initiatives to help revitalize the economy of the region are so important. And that is why I wanted someone with tremendous talent, stature and wisdom to assist in these efforts.

No one, of course, fills that bill like Senator Mitchell. Senator Mitchell will oversee the White House Conference on Trade and Investment in Ireland, which will be held this coming April in Philadelphia. I have asked him to ensure implementation of all the initiatives we announced last month and to explore additional opportunities for helping peace and prosperity grow in Ireland.

He will consult with the International Fund for Ireland, Congress and others to strengthen the Fund's programs. He will also begin a dialogue with the European Union, its individual member states and other nations to promote economic development in ^{the areas} ~~Northern Ireland and the border counties of the Republic~~, which have also been affected by years of violence.

I am confident that in the weeks and months ahead, the people of Ireland will come to respect and admire Senator Mitchell as much as we all have. George, I'm delighted to be saying welcome to you today and not farewell.

###

CONTINGENCY PRESS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: During your campaign you promised to appoint a peace envoy to Ireland and then backed away from that commitment after coming to office. Isn't the creation of this "special advisor" position a back-door way into having a peace envoy?

A: No. Our position all along has been to look for ways to support the efforts of those most directly involved in the search for peace in Northern Ireland -- the British and Irish governments and the people of the region themselves.

It is their efforts that have brought us to where we are today, with Northern Ireland enjoying the most sustained period of peace it has known in a generation. Senator Mitchell's task is to look for ways in which the U.S., and the millions of Americans who care deeply about Ireland, can support and benefit from the new economic opportunities peace brings. This will be good for the peace process, and good for America.

Q: What about the British decision to exclude Sinn Fein from the investment conference Prime Minister Major is holding in Belfast later this month? Will this affect Ron Brown's planned participation?

A: We are discussing the issue of Sinn Fein participation with the British.

We hope it can be resolved.

Will not affect Brown's trip. He is going to support trade and investment in Northern Ireland and the border counties of the Republic most affected by the violence.

Q: When do you expect the British to talk to Sinn Fein?

A: British have indicated they plan to open talks with Sinn Fein before Christmas.

As we have said throughout, we welcome the prospect of broadened dialogue on Northern Ireland. We hope they will begin soon.

Q: What about Gerry Adams?

A: The Attorney General has approved a three-month multiple-entry visa for Mr. Adams. A restriction against direct or indirect fundraising by Mr. Adams

will be attached to the visa. The same restriction was attached to Mr. Adams' previous visa.

Q: How long will this fundraising restriction remain? Are there any conditions like handing in weapons that must be met before the restriction will be lifted?

A: There are a number of issues we need to work through.

Expect to be able to resolve them within a reasonable timeframe.

Once these issues are resolved, we can reconsider the issue.

Q: Will Mr. Adams always need a visa?

A: Mr. Adams is ineligible for entry to the United States on account of previous involvement with terrorist activities. He will always need a waiver of this ineligibility and a visa to enter the United States.

Q: The British permit Mr. Adams to raise funds in the United Kingdom; why should the U.S. not permit Mr. Adams to raise funds in the U.S.?

A: Mr. Adams is a British citizen and as such can exercise within the UK the rights and privileges of a citizen.

As a visitor to the U.S., the Attorney General, upon the recommendation of the Secretary of State, can set those conditions she believes are appropriate in order to insure respect for and enforcement of U.S. laws.

GEORGE J. MITCHELL
NAME

United States Senate
Office of the Majority Leader
Washington, DC 20510-7010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, December 1, 1994

CONTACT: Diane Dewhirst
202/224-2939

**STATEMENT OF SENATE MAJORITY LEADER GEORGE J. MITCHELL REGARDING
APPOINTMENT AS SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT &
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ECONOMIC INITIATIVES IN IRELAND**

I am pleased and honored to be here today to take up the post of Special Advisor to the President and Secretary of State for Economic Initiatives in Ireland.

For Northern Ireland, this is a time of great hope after decades of despair. The leadership President Clinton has shown in bringing about this foreign policy success is praiseworthy, and perhaps too little appreciated. I would like to commend him for his courageous support of the peace process, which has played a key role in giving us this moment of opportunity. The President has also designed the creative array of economic initiatives we are undertaking, actions which will offer opportunities to Americans as well as help make the cessation of violence in Northern Ireland a lasting one.

The chance to work on Northern Ireland at this hopeful time means a great deal to me. My father was the orphan son of Irish immigrants. His name before his adoption was Joseph Kilroy. I have visited Ireland and am eager to meet more of the hard-working people of that beautiful island.

In addition, as Majority Leader of the Senate I have had the opportunity to meet many remarkable people in America and in the world. These have included heads of government, leaders in business and industry, and those in the forefront of community development.

I look forward to renewing many of these acquaintances as we work to increase economic opportunity in Northern Ireland and the border counties. When people have a chance to pursue happiness, to follow the dreams of a steady job, home ownership, and greater prosperity for themselves and for their children, they are much less likely to fall into the destructive patterns of violence, crime and sectarian hatred.

As the President's announcement of our economic initiatives noted, "Americans should be in on the ground floor of these new opportunities; this will be good for us and good for Irish peace and reconciliation." I take great satisfaction in speaking with you on a day in which the Senate will join the House in affirming America's commitment to free trade and open markets, by passing the historic GATT agreement. Our economic initiatives for Northern Ireland are not handouts, but rather, in the spirit of GATT, open doors so that Americans can prosper from the new climate in which barriers of all kinds are collapsing.

Finally, I am glad to be embarking on a mission which has broad support here: from both sides of the aisle; in both Houses of Congress; and among the American people. I know that both communities in Northern Ireland want peace and prosperity as well. The search for peace in Northern Ireland is primarily a matter for those most directly involved: the people of Northern Ireland, and the governments of Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland. The U.S. will continue to be active in supporting the efforts of the British and Irish governments to make that dream a reality. I am proud to be a part of that effort.

Mr. President, thank you very much.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

647-3473

5117

9789

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

December 14, 1993

File

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

THROUGH: JENONNE WALKER *[Signature]*

FROM: JANE E. HON *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: Presidential Statement on Northern Ireland

Prime Ministers Major and Reynolds have concluded an intensive series of meeting and discussions on Northern Ireland and have issued a statement (Tab B) -- apparently known as the Downing Street Declaration -- which many view as an historic breakthrough in the effort to advance progress in resolving the Irish question. To demonstrate the Administration's support for this development, we have drafted a Presidential statement at Tab A for expeditious release.

Concurrence by: Don Steinberg *[Signature]*

RECOMMENDATION

That you authorize the immediate release of the statement at Tab A.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

Attachments

Tab A Draft Presidential Statement

Tab B Major-Reynolds Statement on Northern Ireland

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Declassify on: OADR

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526
White House Guidelines, September 11, 2006
By *[Signature]* NARA, Date 11/5/16
201-0355-F

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

Statement by the President

Today's
 I warmly welcome ~~the~~ joint declaration of Prime Ministers Albert Reynolds and John Major ~~earlier today~~ proposing a framework for peaceful resolution of the situation in Northern Ireland. I have followed with intense interest the British and Irish Prime Ministers' courageous search for peace. ~~The joint declaration issued today by the two leaders~~ reflects the yearning for peace that is shared by all traditions in Ireland and creates an historic opportunity to end the tragic cycle of bloodshed.

still remain to be worked out
~~Difficult issues remain to be worked out, including questions~~ *at the heart*
~~going to the heart~~ of national and cultural identity, and majority and minority rights. But as Prime Minister Reynolds said, the framework provides a structure to address and resolve problems through the peaceful political process on the basis of fundamental principles of agreement and consent. It reflects the belief of both governments that the way forward lies through dialogue and cooperation without compromising the beliefs of either tradition. I am especially heartened that, in the words of Prime Minister Major, the framework "closes no door, except to violence." We hope that all parties will be inspired by the courage Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Major have shown.

No side which claims a legitimate stake in the future of Northern Ireland can justify continued violence on any grounds.

I reaffirm the readiness of the United States to contribute in any appropriate way to the new opportunities which lie ahead in Northern Ireland. Our support for renewed political dialogue remains steadfast.

In this season of hope, the call for peace on earth has a special resonance in Ireland. I call on those who would still seek to embrace or justify violence to heed the words of Paul and cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

London = Dublin
 # # #
 * THEIR FLEXIBILITY HAS led ~~shown~~,
 FOR THE FIRST TIME, TO ~~THE~~ ~~PLACED~~ ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ~~OF THE~~ ~~DEEPEST~~ ~~ASPIRATIONS~~.
 * THE DEEPEST ASPIRATIONS. ~~OF THE~~ ~~DEEPEST~~ ~~ASPIRATIONS~~.
 OTHER'S
God in London

December 15, 1993

MEMO TO: Tony
FROM: Nancy
RE: Ireland

I'd recommend you raise at the CAL lunch the issue of following up on the UK-Irish statement. As we have learned, unless one person has responsibility for following an issue closely (Redman, Pezzullo, Oakley, ~~St~~Cobe), things fall through the cracks.

The Downing Street Declaration presents an historic opportunity to press for peace in Northern Ireland and we should consider appointing a "Special Advisor" for Northern Ireland who will follow closely the events and offer the Secretary and/or the President regular advise on how to move the process forward.

The Brits will resist this idea, fearing it is a back door to a Special Envoy -- we could reassure them that it is simply a way to underscore our strong interest in bringing an end to the conflict.

I'd recommend you raise both the issue of a Special Advisor and whether it should be presidential or simply state.

Also, we should ask the Deputies to create an IWG to monitor the situation, chaired by the NSC.

cc: Berger, Holl, Walker, Reed

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 21, 1997

Dear George:

I want to extend my deepest thanks for your extraordinary service as Special Advisor to the President and Secretary of State for Economic Initiatives in Ireland. The White House Conference on Trade and Investment you led in May 1995 brought together leaders from both communities to pursue their common goal of a prosperous future. Since then, the momentum you created has brought new trade and investment to Ireland, creating jobs and a stake in the future for the young people there.

You continue to have my full support for your work as chairman of the Belfast peace talks. You are doing a great service for the cause of peace.

Sincerely,



The Honorable
George J. Mitchell

P6/(b)(6)

[001]

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

2609

4-21-97

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 21, 1997

'97 APR 21 PM 6:16

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER *SB*

SUBJECT: Senator Mitchell Resigns as Special Advisor on
Economic Initiatives in Ireland

Attached is Senator Mitchell's letter resigning as Special Advisor to the President and Secretary of State for Economic Initiatives in Ireland. He has held that unpaid position since 1994. The Senator's decision does not affect his role as chairman of the peace talks; he has told me privately that, while he will remain for the resumption of the talks, he would like us to begin looking for a replacement, which I am doing. (Lake?) We should be quiet about this fact since George has become about the only glue holding the talks together. When he gives up this economic portfolio, he will make it clear that he will retain his role for the resumption of the Belfast talks.

Presidential Personnel has already begun the process of identifying a successor to Mitchell to oversee our economic initiatives for Ireland. We suggest you send a letter to Senator Mitchell thanking him for his service.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Senator Mitchell at Tab A.

Attachments

Tab A Letter to Senator Mitchell
Tab B Senator Mitchell's Letter of Resignation

*What about
Ben Lyons*

*Copied
Berger
COS*

PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff



VERNER · LIIPFERT
BERNHARD · MCPHERSON ^{BY} HAND
CHARTERED

901 - 15TH STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-2301
(202) 371-6000
FAX: (202) 371-6279

GEORGE J. MITCHELL
(202) 371-6155

April 15, 1997

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I hereby resign as Special Adviser to the President and the Secretary of State for Economic Initiatives in Ireland, effective immediately.

It has been an honor to serve as your Special Adviser since January, 1995. Your leadership had made an important difference in the peace process in Northern Ireland and in the economic growth needed to support the peace process.

However, as you know, as an outgrowth of my activities in this capacity, I have become involved in other ways in Northern Ireland. In late 1995 and early 1996, at the request of the British and Irish Governments, I served as Chairman of the International Body on Decommissioning in Northern Ireland.

Since June, 1996, I have served, also at the request of the British and Irish Governments, as Chairman of Multi-Party Political Talks in Northern Ireland. The Talks, now adjourned during the British election campaign, are scheduled to resume in Belfast, Northern Ireland, on June 3.

My role as Chairman of the Talks has taken an increasing share of my time, and has made it impossible for me to devote sufficient time to my role as your Special Adviser for Economic Initiatives. Accordingly, I have concluded that the only fair and appropriate thing to do is to resign that position, to give you the opportunity to appoint someone who can devote the time the position deserves.

It has been a pleasure to be of service in this matter.

With best regards,


George J. Mitchell

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

2609 Redo

Redo

April 18, 1997

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL R. BERGER

THROUGH: ALEXANDER VERSHBOW *AV*

FROM: MARY ANN PETERS *MAP*

SUBJECT: Senator Mitchell's Resignation as SAPASS for
Economic Initiatives in Ireland

Following up on your conversation, Senator Mitchell has asked that the attached letter of resignation be forwarded to the President. If you have no objection, we will send a copy to the State Department, since Mitchell was also working for the Secretary in his SAPASS capacity. In case the news becomes public, we have prepared press guidance emphasizing two points: that this decision does not affect the Senator's role as chairman of the peace talks; and that the Administration plans to name a successor soon to oversee our economic initiatives in support of the peace process.

Glyn is working with Patsy Thomasson in WH Personnel to name a successor to Senator Mitchell.

A draft thank you letter from the President to Senator Mitchell is at Tab A.

Concurrence by: Jamie Baker, Mary Haines *MH*

RECOMMENDATIONS

That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab I.

Attachments

Tab I Memorandum to the President

Tab A Letter to Senator Mitchell

Tab B Senator Mitchell's Letter of Resignation

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|
| | | | | |
| Original OA/ID Number: 1135 | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Document ID: 9608286 | | | | |
| Stack: V | Row: 45 | Section: 2 | Shelf: 3 | Position: 2 |

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Trimble:

Thank you for your warm letter of congratulations. And thank you as well for the copy of Mr. Lucy's book on Drumcree, signed by the author. I regret that my schedule did not give us the opportunity to meet again during your most recent visit to Washington, but I understand that you saw the Vice President and had productive discussions with Tony Lake and Peter Tarnoff.

I was gratified by your words of praise for the efforts of Senator Mitchell and by your reaffirmation of the view, which I share, that the current peace process can bring a better future for all in Northern Ireland. My Administration will continue to do everything possible to help move the peace process forward.

Sincerely,

Mr. David Trimble
Member of Parliament
House of Commons
London SW1A
United Kingdom

Mr. President

CONFIDENTIAL

062101

MEMORANDUM

TO: President Bill Clinton
FROM: Jim Lyons *JL*
DATE: April 22, 1994

I thought you might be interested in the Irish press re St. Patrick's Day at the White House. (See attached) While the event was truly an outstanding White House gala, the Irish community has clearly attached great significance to it and, indeed, regards it as a watershed in Irish American history. Frankly, I have only come to understand its powerful symbolism in the weeks since it took place and since I have had an opportunity to talk to many of the attendees and others in positions of authority and responsibility in the Irish political and business communities. It is no understatement to say that you have achieved a recognition for Irish Americans that even John Kennedy did not. Let me add one more "Bravo"!

I continue to be kept informed by the Irish and British governments about the peace talks and events behind the scenes. There appears to be a general sense of frustration in that the "window of opportunity" may be closing. I wonder if there is something dramatic we can do to move the process forward again. (I continue to believe that there may well be a Camp David opportunity here.)

One modest proposal. The chairman for the International fund for Ireland, Willie McCarter, and the Joint Directors General from Dublin and Belfast will be in Washington May 11 and 12, 1994 for their annual visit. As you know, the Fund was jointly established by the British and Irish governments to fund economic redevelopment and promote reconciliation. Perhaps a Rose Garden photo op with them and the Irish and British Ambassadors, with a brief but emphatic statement of encouragement and support to the interested parties, could help move things forward. There are obvious limitations to what the U.S. can do, but your personal commitment and interest in this question is continuing to be a major factor.

*125-
ca
Murray
5.
de Puck
ca 21*

Please forgive my presumption. I know you get more advice than you need, but this is an issue where we truly have the parties' full and intense attention. Let me know if I can be of any help.

JML

DETERMINED TO BE AN ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING
INITIALS: DB DATE: 12/17/12
2006-1990-F

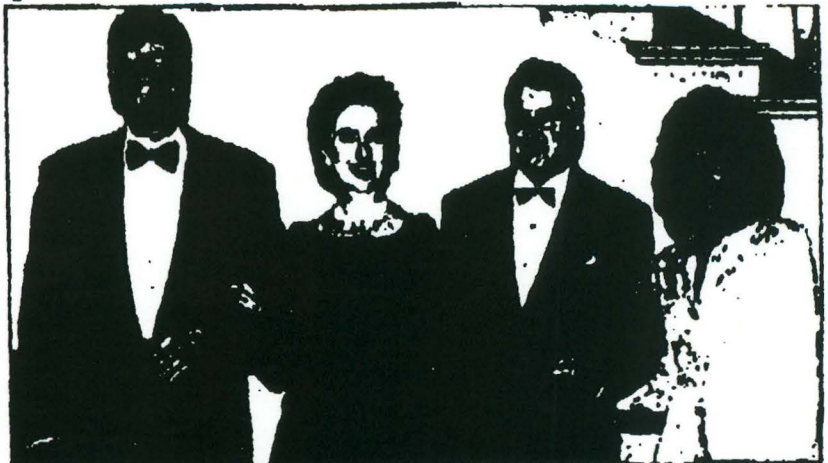
'Even John F. Kennedy never did anything like this for the Irish'

Clinton forges a new relationship with Irish-American community

White House resounds to whoops and cheers as 400 from the worlds of politics and entertainment enjoy 'Celebration of Ireland'

LETTER FROM AMERICA

CONOR O'CLERY



Arriving for the St Patrick's Day party at the White House were President Clinton and Mrs. Clinton accompanied by the Taoiseach (left) and the Hon. E. J. Sheehy (right). Photograph: EPA

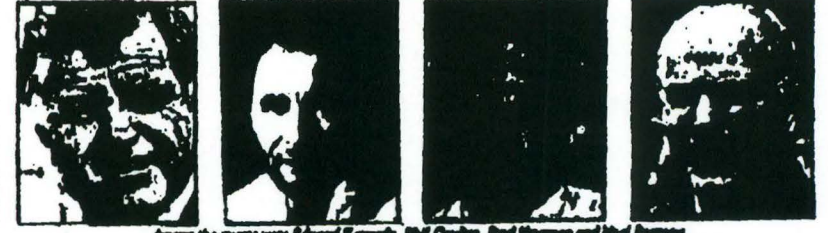
PRESIDENT Clinton had never before in the history of the White House invited 400 guests to a celebration of Ireland. The guests included members of the Irish-American community, politicians, and entertainers. The celebration was held in the White House on Saturday night, March 14, 1964. The President and Mrs. Clinton were joined by the Taoiseach, E. J. Sheehy, and the Hon. E. J. Sheehy. The celebration was a success and was well-received by the Irish-American community.

Clinton never did anything like this for the Irish. The celebration was a success and was well-received by the Irish-American community. The President and Mrs. Clinton were joined by the Taoiseach, E. J. Sheehy, and the Hon. E. J. Sheehy. The celebration was a success and was well-received by the Irish-American community.

'It is difficult to know what to make of the latest attacks on Heahroy. As at Helton, reactionary forces attempt to kill the peace'

There was a number of guests at the celebration. The President and Mrs. Clinton were joined by the Taoiseach, E. J. Sheehy, and the Hon. E. J. Sheehy. The celebration was a success and was well-received by the Irish-American community.

PRESIDENT Clinton had never before in the history of the White House invited 400 guests to a celebration of Ireland. The guests included members of the Irish-American community, politicians, and entertainers. The celebration was held in the White House on Saturday night, March 14, 1964. The President and Mrs. Clinton were joined by the Taoiseach, E. J. Sheehy, and the Hon. E. J. Sheehy. The celebration was a success and was well-received by the Irish-American community.



Among the guests were Edward Kennedy, Phil Coulter, Paul Hoffman and Noel Pearson.

The celebration was a success and was well-received by the Irish-American community. The President and Mrs. Clinton were joined by the Taoiseach, E. J. Sheehy, and the Hon. E. J. Sheehy. The celebration was a success and was well-received by the Irish-American community.

February 28, 1993

MEMORANDUM TO MARCIA HALE
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR SCHEDULING & ADVANCE

FROM: JENNIFER O'CONNOR

SUBJECT: THE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS TO THE NEW YORK IRISH COMMUNITY
DURING THE CAMPAIGN

I. American Ireland Fund

I checked with a number of NY Irish community activists & the Irish community liaison staff of Mayor Dinkins. Their universal assessment of the American-Irish Fund is that it is non-controversial. It is comprised mainly of wealthy Irish-Americans and it donates funds to a variety of cultural, children's and other projects. It is mainstream and has never been associated in any way with the IRA. It is also innocuous enough that it doesn't irritate the radicals.

II. Campaign statements

On April 5, 1992, then Governor Clinton addressed a group of Irish New York elected officials and heads of Irish organizations. Below is a summary of the substantive policy statements he made. I have a transcript, let me know if you want a copy.

A. Special Envoy

In answer to Mayor Ray Flynn's question, "Would you, as President of the United States, appoint a special envoy to Northern Ireland...?", Governor Clinton responded, "The short answer to your question is yes." The Governor expanded to say he believed the US was too reluctant to engage itself in a positive way because of its relationship with Great Britain. He also said we should get the United Nations involved in finding a resolution in Northern Ireland.

The Governor said specifically that he would use the special envoy and the United Nations to focus on verifiable instances of human rights abuses as documented by Helsinki Watch & Amnesty International, but he did not say how the US should pressure Britain about human rights abuses.

He said he would raise issues of human rights abuse with the British Prime Minister.

B. Visa Denial

Gerry Adams, the President of Sinn Fein (political arm of the IRA) and also a member of the British Parliament has been repeatedly denied a visa to come to the US.

In response to a question about his view on this, Governor Clinton said "I would support a visa for Gerry Adams, and I would support a visa for any other properly elected official who was part of a government recognized by the United States."

D. Joe Dougherty

Joe Dougherty, an IRA member convicted of murder who escaped & was arrested in the US, was extradited to Britain last year. Though several US court decisions said he should have been given an asylum hearing, the US Dept. of Justice under Bush intervened and extradited him without allowing him a hearing.

Governor Clinton said he believed Dougherty should have been given a hearing because the courts ruled that he should have gotten one. He said he believed the US should uphold its own laws and that the Justice Dept. should not circumvent US laws for political purposes. The Governor was careful to say that if an asylum hearing found that Dougherty should have been returned to Britain, then he would support returning him to Britain.

D. MacBride Principles

The Governor was asked if he would encourage US states that had not yet adopted the MacBride Principles to do so. (The Principles govern investment in businesses that do business in Northern Ireland. They are patterned on the Sullivan Principles which do the same for investment in South Africa.)

The Governor said he liked and believed in the Principles and that he would encourage his successor as Governor of Arkansas to adopt them. He said that as President, he would encourage all Governors to look at embracing the Principles.

E. Immigration

When asked if he supported a more open immigration policy, the Governor said he liked the Morrison Visa program and would support other similar measures.

SUMMARY

The only promises are that he would appoint a special envoy, discuss human rights abuses with John Major, encourage his successor in Arkansas and other Governors to look at the MacBride Principles.

If we're planning on appointing an envoy, the President could mention it during the week of St. Patrick's Day.

I don't know if he discussed abuses with Major.

If Ireland fits the message for the week of March 17th, it would make sense to address the MacBride Principles in the President's radio address for that week.

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

March 16, 1993

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT AMERICAN IRELAND FOUNDATION DINNER

The Capital Hilton
Washington, D.C.

6:43 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, for once again participating in the great American charade, designed to convince people that the President has more authority than the Speaker of the House. (Laughter.) Now, if I were a prime minister, I wouldn't have to worry about that. (Laughter.)

Mr. Prime Minister, it's a delight to welcome you to our Nation's Capital, and I look forward to our visit tomorrow. I want to congratulate Chairman O'Reilly. Let me ask you: Do you like the purple? (Laughter.) I want you to understand that is not royal purple. That is a substitute, because he made the ultimate sacrifice; he gave his President the green. (Applause.)

I want to thank all those who worked so hard to make this dinner successful. It's often remarked that on St. Patrick's Day we're all Irish, or we wish we were. I am actually part Irish, and I have often been accused of having a certain gift for blarney -- (laughter) -- although those were not the words used last year when that was said.

I'm glad to see Senator Kennedy and Congressman Kennedy and Mrs. Smith in the audience. But, you know, President Kennedy was the first Irish Catholic to become president. But, though a Baptist from Arkansas, I'm the first graduate of a Catholic university to become President. (Applause.) I'm glad to see Father O'Donovan out there -- my president -- of Georgetown. Thank you. (Applause.)

As a younger man, I went through a period of intense uncertainty about whether I should pursue a career in music or a career in politics. I was happy to learn that the Prime Minister, whom you affectionately called the Taoiseach -- you know, I want the members of the Congress to learn that. I like that -- the chieftain. It has a good feeling. (Laughter.)

He's been an exponent of one of Ireland's most popular forms of native music -- country and western. (Laughter.) I'm glad he pursued his political career in Ireland, because if he had chosen to come to Arkansas, he might have defeated me with that sort of background. (Laughter.)

You know, Irish music has made almost as much of a contribution to modern life as Irish politicians. From the Chieftains to Phil Coulter to Van Morrison to that wonderful group, U-2 that played such a major role in trying to get the young people in America to go and vote. The first time I heard that their lead singer was named Bono, I asked what his last name was. Then I found out he didn't have a last name. Then, after I spent an hour with him, I discovered he didn't need one. (Laughter.)

You know, there are 44 million Americans of Irish descent -- that is, those who are telling the truth and those who

MORE

lie, which qualifies them -- (laughter) -- who have contributed immeasurably to every sphere of our life. In fact, the house that I now live in, which either makes me the resident of America's finest public housing or, as some of my critics say, the crown jewel of the federal penal system, was designed by James Hoban, a famous Irishman who designed the White House based on a model of a magnificent house in Ireland.

I thought I would tell you this, for those of you who don't know, since President Kennedy once said at a dinner of Nobel laureates that it was the most distinguished array of brainpower ever gathered in the White House since Thomas Jefferson down there alone -- (laughter) -- James Hoban defeated Thomas Jefferson for the design of the White House. Jefferson submitted anonymously a design for the White House, and the people making the decision -- basically George Washington and a few of his friends -- (laughter) -- concluded that Hoban was superior to Jefferson. (Laughter and applause.)

When President Kennedy said that "here on earth, God's work is truly our own." Whenever I'm asked to speak in a church I say that. It captured for me more than anything else what the essence of public service is about. The American Ireland Foundation embodies that phrase as well as any group of Americans, offering hope and opportunity to all the people of Ireland, promoting peace, reconciliation and common enterprise between Catholics and Protestants, nationalists and unionists, in promoting cultural activities, community development, employment opportunities in health care and counseling.

I am absolutely delighted, I must say, that the government of Ireland is now providing a site, an historic castle for the new Hole in the Wall Gang Camp for children with life-threatening diseases. I'm glad to see Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward here tonight and I can tell you that Hillary and I visited the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in Connecticut a couple of years ago, and I was moved beyond words by what I saw there. And I thank everyone who is responsible for giving the children of Ireland this remarkable opportunity. (Applause.)

The American Ireland Fund is doing in Ireland what we are trying to do here in the United States -- to offer opportunity, to encourage responsibility, to reknit the social fabric badly frayed by the pressures of modern life. And to restore a sense of community without which it is difficult for people to proceed with their individual and family lives.

I'm proud to support your work, because it's important, it's an inspiration, it's a lesson for all of us -- not only for those who are Irish all year long, but for those who are just Irish for 24 hours a year. I thank the Irish Americans who have worked with me, particularly in the last 16 months to try to help me learn more about Ireland, as well as about the problems and promise of Irish Americans here at home, and I look forward to working with all of you in the days and weeks and years ahead.

I hope that we will always be able to bring to our labors the remarkable spirit I sense in this room tonight, and never lose the sense of humor which has become so associated with this wonderful holiday. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

6:55 P.M. EST

EDWARD M. KENNEDY
MASSACHUSETTS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 16, 1993

Dear Colleague:

Attached is the annual St. Patrick's Day Statement issued by the Friends of Ireland in Congress in support of peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland.


The Friends of Ireland is a bipartisan group of Senators and Representatives opposed to violence and terrorism in Northern Ireland and dedicated to developing a United States policy that promotes a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the conflict. The continuing tragedy there has cost more than 3,000 lives over the past twenty four years, and has brought great devastation and instability to the region.

We hope that you will support the 1993 Friends of Ireland Statement.

Sincerely,


Edward M. Kennedy


Daniel Patrick Moynihan


Christopher J. Dodd


Claiborne Pell

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Statement by The Friends of Ireland
St. Patrick's Day, 1993

On this St. Patrick's Day, the Friends of Ireland in the United States Congress join with all Irish Americans, and indeed Irish people everywhere, in celebrating Irish heritage and in calling for renewed efforts to achieve peace, reconciliation, and justice in Northern Ireland. We welcome the Prime Minister of Ireland, An Taoiseach Albert Reynolds, to Washington and look forward to working closely with him, with the Deputy Prime Minister, Tanaiste Dick Spring, and with their British counterparts, in seeking ways to achieve these ends over the coming years.

We also take special note of the recent gains made by the women of Ireland. The historic election of President Mary Robinson in 1990, the victories of twenty women in the recent parliamentary elections, and the appointment of the first woman to the board of directors of the International Fund for Ireland are all developments which will enhance the important role of women in the political life of Ireland.

Our concern for a peaceful and just solution in Northern Ireland springs not only from our personal commitment to Ireland but also from our awareness of the exceptional contributions that generations of Irish men and women have made to the building of this nation. The recent census records 44 million Americans who claim Ireland as the home of their forebears. It reminds us how significant an impact that small island has had on our nation and how disproportionate it has been to its size. It is a source of great sadness, therefore, that this celebration of our common Irish heritage is overshadowed by the continuing tragedy of violence in Northern Ireland.

On this day of Irish affection and friendship, the Friends of Ireland warmly welcome and endorse last year's round-table talks between the Irish and British governments and the constitutional parties in Northern Ireland. We reiterate our full support for the earliest possible renewal of such talks, and their ambitious objective of bringing about a new beginning for relationships within Northern Ireland, within Ireland, and between Ireland and the United Kingdom. The people of Northern Ireland today are crying out for an end to the bitterness and hatred of the past. They demand a political agreement that can bring an end to the violence. They know there can be no real political progress without genuine dialogue between those of all traditions who seek a constitutional way forward towards solving the problems of Ireland.

We unreservedly condemn the violence of the IRA and Loyalist paramilitary groups. Violence begets only more violence and, with it, a cycle of reprisal and revenge. We abhor the violence perpetrated by terrorists through their indiscriminate bombing and shooting campaigns and the misery they bring to ordinary people's lives. Such violence fosters division, bitterness, and distrust. It

-2-

seeks to destroy the bridges between the two communities which are an essential avenue to a peaceful political compact by Irish men and women of all political persuasions or allegiances. We are convinced that terrorism will never bring justice and peace and so urge all terrorists to lay aside their arms if they truly wish to achieve their goals.

While recognizing that the primary responsibility for resolving the problems of Northern Ireland lies with the Irish and British governments as well as the constitutional parties in Northern Ireland, the Friends believe that the United States can play a constructive role in advancing the political process. We enthusiastically welcome the interest that President Clinton has shown in Irish affairs, and we join with him in offering our support as the people of Ireland search together to find a way forward. We share the view of the Taoiseach that the constructive interest and support of the President and Congress of the United States has the potential to be uniquely helpful. There should be thorough consultation to ensure that this concern is structured in the most effective and helpful manner possible.

The Friends of Ireland attach great importance to the continued and active implementation of the Anglo-Irish Agreement by the two governments. The Agreement, and in particular the role in Northern Ireland assigned to the Irish Government under it, has introduced a new dynamic into the situation through its effort to give formal recognition to the legitimacy and status of the political, economic, and social aspirations of the nationalist community. The Agreement should remain in force until transcended by new arrangements acceptable to the two governments and the constitutional parties in Northern Ireland.

We also continue to have serious concerns involving human rights, most particularly the murder of Irish men, women, and children from terrorist attacks. In addition, Amnesty International and Helsinki Watch have documented incidents involving the use of lethal force by the security forces, collusion between these forces and loyalists paramilitary groups, harassment of young nationalists by the British Army, and the denial of basic civil liberties. Such abuses must end, specific cases of abuse must be independently investigated, and those responsible must be punished.

Confidence in the forces of law and order, and in the impartial administration of justice, is fundamental to the construction of a just and peaceful society in Northern Ireland. We strongly urge the British Government, acting pursuant to consultations in the Anglo-Irish Conference, to put in place a series of measures to respond to the lack of confidence which so clearly exists in the nationalist community. A first step in this direction would be to ensure that all military patrols which come into contact with the public are accompanied by experienced and trained police officers, as agreed in the 1985 arrangements between the two governments.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

-3-

The British Government should also work to address the recommendations made in reports by Amnesty International, Helsinki Watch, and most recently, by the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, and the Committee on the Administration of Justice, which is based in Northern Ireland.

In addition, an end to discrimination in employment would help greatly to establish hope and confidence among the nationalist community, especially the young people. We are encouraged by the terms of the 1989 Fair Employment Act and support its implementation with all necessary powers to redress decades of discrimination.

The Friends are convinced that new investment from overseas can also be a positive catalyst for change. We are very pleased that Congressional support for the International Fund for Ireland has enabled it to play a constructive role in economic development, especially in the disadvantaged areas of both Northern Ireland and the border counties of the Republic. In fostering economic and social progress, and building a record of success through cooperation and incentive, the Fund is providing a measure of real hope for those who have suffered the most from the conflict in Northern Ireland. It has, most importantly, become a concrete force for reconciliation and healing through the creation of thousands of permanent jobs and with them, a constructive alternative for those who otherwise might have chosen the path of violence.

We believe the International Fund for Ireland with its independent Board jointly appointed by both governments can be a model for other efforts of cooperation and confidence-building between the two great traditions and the two political communities of Ireland. We welcome such initiatives that offer the prospect of reinforcing reconciliation among the Irish people.

We are hopeful that the process of healing and reconciliation can be advanced in Ireland over the next twelve months. It is now critical that both communities reach out to, and further reassure, one another. The Irish and British governments have the central responsibility to encourage and develop this process. In doing so, they will have our full and enthusiastic support. As Friends of Ireland, it is our dearest wish to see all of Ireland at peace, reconciled, and newly energized, free from the dissensions of the past, playing its full, distinctive, and dynamic part on the European and world stage.

On this St. Patrick's Day, the Friends of Ireland in the United States Congress join friends of Ireland everywhere in urging all parties to make special efforts this year to bring about peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

May 25, 1995

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN IRELAND

Sheraton Washington
Washington, D.C.

10:48 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. Secretary Christopher, Secretary Brown, Senator Mitchell, Deputy Prime Minister Spring, Mr. Patrick Mayhew, Mr. Ambassador, ladies and gentlemen, to all of you of Irish, British, and American heritage from the business communities of these great nations, I thank you for being here. I have looked forward to this day for a long time, to having people like you here who see the opportunities for trade and investment that come from peace, and the opportunities for trade and investment to support peace.

I'm especially delighted that so many are here from Ireland and the United Kingdom. And to all of our friends from Northern Ireland, your attendance here shows your dedication to a future of cooperation and prosperity and we're particularly glad to have you.

Let me say a special word of thanks to George Mitchell for the tremendous work he has done in organizing this conference. His devotion to the cause of nurturing peace and growth in Northern Ireland and the Republic's border counties has played a central part in the progress that we celebrate here today. I'm delighted that he will lead another mission to Ireland this summer, and even more pleased that he's agreed to continue his work in overseeing our economic initiatives through the end of this year. (Applause.)

Ireland is lucky to have George Mitchell on its side, even if it has to put up with the envy of the United States Senate, the Supreme Court, and Major League Baseball. (Laughter.)

You know, George is Irish and Lebanese. Maybe when we succeed in Ireland, if the Secretary of State is not finished -- (laughter) -- he'll volunteer for other duty. (Laughter.)

As all of you know, the United States has a keen interest in a stable and democratic and prosperous Europe. But that interest is particularly strong when it comes to Ireland. Our strong bonds of kinship, culture and history shared with the peoples of the United Kingdom in Ireland are well-known.

This is a moment of historic opportunity for you and historic interest for the United States. For my own part, people ask me from time to time why this is a matter of such deep personal interest to me. It goes beyond my Irish roots. I wish I could just say that's all there was to it. But an important part of our mission at this moment in time as Americans is to help reconcile the divisions which keep people apart and lead them sometimes to violence both within our own country and around the world.

If you look into the next century you could thank the good Lord that we may -- we may -- succeed in removing the nuclear threat from the children of the 21st century. But we still see these ancient impulses that keep people apart based on religious or racial or ethnic differences.

I tell my fellow Americans all the time that the great genius of our country in the next century may be our ability to exalt the greatest amount of diversity of any large country in the world. But it is still a challenge for us here. You see it all the time. And we can think of no greater mission in our quest to reconcile diversity than trying to help peace and prosperity succeed in Northern Ireland, and in Ireland, in general. (Applause.)

This is, as I'm sure you know, an extraordinary gathering which you are a part. Never before have representatives of all the political parties in Northern Ireland, officials from the United Kingdom and Ireland, and so many business leaders joined to help us to build a better tomorrow. The conference shows anew the historic progress that has been made toward a just and lasting settlement, and toward a peace that respects the rights and traditions of both communities.

In the last few months, thanks to the cease-fire and the momentum of the negotiations, a powerful transformation has begun. Peace is closer than it's been in a generation. For the first time in decades, children can walk to school without worrying. Families that have endured so much violence with so much dignity can now enjoy the blessings of days without violence and nights without fear.

The roads between North and South are more open than they have been in 25 years. And citizens of the Republic are visiting the North in even greater numbers. In Belfast, the army patrols

have ended, the body armor and helmets are gone, hundreds of troops are now going home. These landmark achievements would not have been possible without the leadership and courage of Prime Minister Major, Prime Minister Bruton, and before him, Prime Minister Reynolds. With the Joint Framework Document, they are paving the way for a new and hopeful era of reconciliation. All true friends of Ireland are grateful to them and to the parties that have risen to their challenge. I salute them, and I salute others who work for peace -- individuals such as Foreign Minister Spring; Sir Patrick Mayhew; and that tireless advocate of peace, our friend, John Hume. (Applause.)

We pay tribute as well to the brave people of Northern Ireland, whose courage has brought them to this point. The United States is proud to have helped them and all peacemakers, and today I renew my pledge to do everything in my power to support their efforts. (Applause.) I know I speak for all Americans when I say that people who take risks for peace here and anywhere else in the world will always be welcome in the White House, in Washington, and throughout our country.

This momentum must be maintained. The ministerial-level talks represent a step of tremendous promise. I hope the parties can soon sit down together to discuss the future and their differences. That is the best guarantee of a permanent peace.

But there must be progress as well outside the conference rooms. Violence is diminished, but it has not disappeared. I call on all those who continue to employ violence to end the punishment beatings and the intimidation. (Applause.) And to all who are observing the cease-fire, I appeal to you to take the next step and begin to discuss serious decommissioning of weapons. (Applause.) Paramilitaries on both sides must get rid of their bombs and guns for good. And the specter of violence that has haunted Ireland must be banished, once and for all. (Applause.)

It is also time to begin healing the wounds of a generation. Many innocents disappeared during The Troubles. Others were banished from their homes. Today there are families that have still not had the chance to grieve in peace, to visit the graves of their loved ones, to reunite after years of separation. It is time to allow families to be whole again. (Applause.)

As everyone knows, peace is more than cease-fires and formal agreements. It demands real hope and progress in the hearts of people. It demands common striving for the common good. It is time for those who have been most affected by the fighting to feel this kind of hope and this sense of progress. As Yeats wrote, "Too long a sacrifice can make a stone of the heart." There must be a peace dividend in Northern Ireland and

the border counties so that everyone is convinced that the future belongs to those who build, not those who destroy; so that the majority that supports peace is strengthened; so that there is no slipping back into the violence that frustration breeds.

That is why this conference is so important. It underscores that all sides have an interest in investing in the future of Northern Ireland, and that all sides will benefit from the peace. Our own experience here in America shows what a difference that kind of progress and benefit can bring. More than a century ago, our great sage, Ralph Waldo Emerson, said that trade was "the principle of liberty," that it "made peace and keeps peace." That is what we wish for Ireland, and now it is time to realize that wish.

The end of organized violence makes that possible. So I urge American businesses and all others to consider investing in Northern Ireland and the border counties. The opportunities are excellent. The work force is well-educated and well-motivated. The productivity levels are high. The unit labor costs are low. The labor relations are good. The infrastructure, the communications, the access to the European market are fine. With the prospect of an enduring settlement on the horizon, business confidence is rising fast. Experts predict investment booms on both sides of the border, and an increase in tourism in the North that could exceed 100 percent.

Already the United States is the number one investor in both Northern Ireland and the Republic. American companies employ nearly 10 percent of all the workers in Northern Ireland's manufacturing sector. And Ireland imports almost \$3 billion worth of American goods. The firms that we have in these markets are increasing their investments, strengthening their positions in Europe, building businesses that create jobs on both sides of the Atlantic. By doing well, these companies are also doing good.

More investment in Northern Ireland promises to lift the region out of the cycle of despair that leads to violence. It will reduce the chronic unemployment that runs around 50 percent in some urban areas and has deadened the dreams of so many.

If growth is accompanied by an end to discrimination, by fair and nonsectarian employment practices and encouraging investment in areas in greatest need, then both Catholics and Protestants will feel that they have a stake in their society and its peaceful future. (Applause.) When both communities feel the benefits of peace and see that they are distributed fairly, despair will lose its hold, and all will have the chance they deserve to fulfill their God-given potential.

"Peace," Yeats said, "comes dropping slow." The past will not be overcome in a day, but the perception of change provides the kindling for hope, and the opportunities for positive, powerful, profitable change clearly are now present in Northern Ireland.

As long as I am President, the United States will continue to encourage that change. I am proud of all that Secretary Brown has done in achieving -- on his mission to Ireland last December. I'm proud of the many efforts of the Department of Commerce, USAID, USIA and other government agencies to support reconciliation in Ireland. I am proud of the work of the State Department, and I want to say a special word of thanks to our Ambassadors in the area, Ambassador Crowe and Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith for the outstanding work that they have both done. (Applause.) Thank you.

Ours is the first administration ever to include appropriations for the International Fund for Ireland. The IFI have lived up to our hopes for it. The Fund supports over 3,000 economic development projects, and has created some 23,000 jobs in areas that were recruiting grounds for the paramilitaries. It is promoting cooperation across the border and between communities.

The record challenges us to go even further. So we have increased our funding request for the IFI to almost \$60 million over the next two years. (Applause.) And we are working to build more bridges across the ocean through exchange programs for managers, students, agricultural experts, artists and scholars. Programs that establish bonds of friendship, while transporting ideas and information, benefitting people on both sides of the ocean.

There are some in Washington who would like to cut our funding for these and other programs that support peace -- in Ireland and throughout the world. That would be a grave error. (Applause.)

The United States has an abiding interest in creating peace and the opportunities it brings. We must have the resources to foster peace and stand by those who take the hard risks for peace. We have seen time and again that our investments in peace, whether in the Middle East, Southern Africa, Haiti or Ireland, have always yielded great benefits for the American people -- in growing markets, greater stability, increased security.

I hope all those who want to see peace in Northern Ireland will keep that in mind. Peace has a price, but it is a small one compared to the alternative, and it is a price very much worth paying. (Applause.)

I'm also glad we've been able to help the cause of peace through this conference and other economic initiatives, because Ireland has given us so much. The two communities that today are coming together in cooperation have each given America a rich legacy. In our nation, Catholic and Protestant have been intertwined, and together they have contributed immensely to the greatness of our people and the success of America. There is evidence all around us. In places like New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio, counties, cities and towns with names like Londonderry, Ulster and Antrim dot the map. Often these places mark the frontier in the 18th century when Ulster Protestants, some of them my ancestors, pushed west to build new lives and a new nation. These settlers were the forbears of nearly a dozen American presidents, including Andrew Jackson, William McKinley and Woodrow Wilson.

Irish Catholics contributed just as much to our country's rise, whether in building railroads or institutions. A visiting journalist in the last century took the measure of that effort when he said that, in America, you could see "water power, steam power, horse power and Irish power." (Laughter and applause.) And, he concluded, "the last works hardest of all." (Laughter.)

In this half of our century, the names John F. Kennedy, Justice William Brennan, Speaker Tip O'Neill only began to tell the story of Irish Catholics' contribution to all the branches of American democracy. These true traditions, harnessed together in the New World for common goals, has been America's great fortune.

Time and again, we have seen peoples of different backgrounds and ancestries put freedom over faction, the goals of the community over the interests of its separate parts.

Of the gifts we can give to Ireland, this example of people joining together for the common good clearly is the greatest. The challenges of the coming century demand that we keep in mind the example of those who went before us, who built bridges across their differences, and found the strength to pull together.

We now face a whole new set of challenges in this new era. The global economy, the explosion of information, the advance of technology, the growing mobility of people -- all these forces are bringing us into a more integrated world, more full of possibilities than ever before. The next century can be the most exciting time in all human history because of the opportunities for human possibilities.

But we have to recognize that all these forces of integration have a darker side, as well. If we do not rise to the challenges they present, we become vulnerable to the organized forces of destruction and evil; for the modern world requires us to be open in order to take advantage of all the

forces of integration. And as we become more open, we become more vulnerable to those who would hate and those who would destroy.

As the people of Northern Ireland are showing, we can seize the moment. We can turn away from terror. We can turn away from destruction. We can turn toward peace and unity and possibility. But to keep this process going, to lock in the accomplishments, we must make hope real. To grasp the opportunity, we must build stronger business and communities and families. We must have more and better jobs. We must strengthen the prospects of a better tomorrow.

That is the way to preempt fanaticism. That is the way to close the book on old and bloody conflicts. That is the way to give our children the future they all deserve. The chance is there. It is here. It is now. We have it in our power to make all the difference. Let us do it.

Thank you, and bless you all. (Applause.)

END

11:09 A.M. EDT