

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 4/8/98 9:51:55 PM

FROM Butler, Lawrence E.

CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT Presidential Support for Northern Ireland Peace Process
[UNCLASSIFIED]

TO Leavy, David C.
Bandler, Donald K.

CARBON_COPY

TEXT_BODY Howze this look for a tic-toc. I am getting more stuff from commerce on their trade missions and anything we have missed.

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT Irelandtimeline.doc
Presidential Support for Northern Ireland Peace Process
Chronology

1993

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November 25 Decision memo goes to the President on how to handle Gerry Adams request for a visa to his December 7-13 visit (fundraising restrictions, etc.)

November 30 Announced Anthony Lake invited Gerry Adams to meet with him at the

White House. Also announced Adams granted a waiver for a multiple entry visa valid for 90 days.

December 1 The President appointed Senator George Mitchell as Special Advisor for Economic Initiatives for Ireland. He and his office at the State Department were charged with working closely with other government agencies and private entities to coordinate implementation of the President's economic initiatives.

December 6 Anthony Lake met with Gerry Adams at the White House. (Commerce secretary Ron Brown also briefly joined the meeting.) (WH issued press release on December 6 confirming the meeting.)

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invited.

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November 30 President visited Northern Ireland and Ireland. His visit and speeches galvanized popular support for peace.

1996

January International Body issued report concluding decommissioning not feasible, recommending parties adopt Mitchell Principles of non-violence. Prime Minister Major announced election as route to all-party talks.

February 9 Two people died and dozens injured in the Canary Wharf bombing that followed the IRA announcement that the cease-fire was over. Bombing campaign continued.

February 28 The two governments issued a joint communique setting June 10 as the date for all-party talks, in which Sinn Fein can participate provided the cease-fire is restored. Agreed an election would be held in Northern Ireland leading directly to the talks.

March Administration granted visa to Gerry Adams to hear support of Irish Americans for restoration of cease-fire. Undertook not to fundraise; not invited to White House St. Patrick's Day reception.

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October The President hosted the second White House Conference on Investment in Ireland, in Pittsburgh. IRA explodes a deadly car bomb on a British military based in Northern Ireland during conference.

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March 17 Vice President stood in for President Clinton to meet with Irish Prime Minister Bruton and host the St. Patrick's Day reception at the White House.

May ? President visited briefly newly elected British Prime Minister Blair in London.

July 19 IRA cease-fire renewal announced. White House released President's statement welcoming this development.

August 29 Secretary of State for Northern Ireland announced that Britain found the IRA cease-fire genuine in word and deed.

September 3 Sandy Berger met Gerry Adams at the White House. Adams also engaged in fund raising in New York.

September 9 Secretaries of State and Justice decide to suspend deportation proceedings against certain individuals with IRA-related convictions.

September 15 Chairman Mitchell opens first session with Sinn Fein in the talks.

September 16 Massive car bomb in Martkethill wrecks business district, but no casualties. Blamed on the CIRA.

September 17 Unionists and Loyalists enter the talks, White House issued a statement welcoming this.

September 22 The President signed the determination to release \$19.6 million for the International Fund for Ireland, FY 97.

September 24 The President named James Lyons as the second his Special Advisor for economic initiatives in Ireland.

September 24 Sandy Berger met with Irish Foreign Minister Burke

October 7 President dropped in on Berger meeting with UUP delegation.

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October 30-31 First Lady visited Dublin and Belfast, gave speech in honor of Joyce McCartan at Waterfront Hall.

December 8 President and Sandy Berger met with John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic Liberal Party

December 15 President meets with Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern in the Oval Office

December 27 Splinter republicans murder leading Loyalist paramilitary leader Billy Wright. White House issued statement calling for calm. Tit-for-tat revenge killings claim a dozen lives in January. 1998

January 12 Irish and British governments released "heads of agreement" document to parties. White House welcomed in a statement.

January 29 Jim Steinberg briefed Irish American community leaders.

February 5 President hosted Prime Minister Blair for official visit, discussed Northern Ireland.

February 20 Sinn Fein suspended from talks due to killing of two persons by IRA. White House issued statement.

February 26-7 Special Advisor Lyons held workshop in Belfast on community financing.

March 16-17 St. Patrick's Day -- the President met with five of the talks party leaders, met with the Irish Prime Minister, and hosted the evening reception at the White House. Sandy Berger and Jim Steinberg met with six of the party leaders and Mo Mowlam. First Lady met with Mo Mowlam and Women's Coalition delegation. Commerce Secretary Daley announced trade mission to Northern Ireland for June 8.

April 1 NSC chaired a meeting with Special Advisor Lyons to prepare for post-peace agreement initiatives.

April 5 The President called British Prime Minister Blair to discuss the NI peace process

April 7 The President called Irish Prime Minister Ahern to offer condolences on Ahern's mother's death and discuss the peace process

April 6-9 Jim Steinberg and Larry Butler stayed in hourly contact with governments and parties regarding the talks.

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 4/10/98 2:24:04 PM
FROM Rubin, Eric S.
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT FW: NI Tic Toc [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Butler, Lawrence E.

CARBON_COPY Leavy, David C.
Crowley, Philip J.
Dehqanzada, Yahya A.
Luzzatto, Anne R.
Rubin, Eric S.
Wozniak, Natalie S.

TEXT_BODY Larry/Dave: Please send us the revised version with the calls added in so we can use with selected reporters. Thanks

-----Original
Message-----
From: Leavy, David C.
Sent: Friday, April 10, 1998
12:56 PM
To: @PLANNING - Strat Plan & Comm; @NSA - Natl Security
Advisor; @PRESS - Public Affairs; @EUROPE - European Affairs
Subject: NI
Tic Toc [UNCLASSIFIED]

This is a scrubbed version of the tic-toc.
THIS CAN BE GIVEN TO REPORTERS ON A SELECT BASIS
(Right now only
Dan Balz and John King) AND UNDER CONDITIONS NOT TO BE
QUOTED FROM
BUT USED AS GUIDE ONLY. Larry--can you add POTUS phone
calls from
last night. thanks.

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DATE-TIME 5/8/98 9:41:42 PM
FROM Bandler, Donald K.
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT FW: STEINBERG CNN INTERVIEW package [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Butler, Lawrence E.

CARBON_COPY**TEXT_BODY**

-----Original Message-----

From: Butler, Lawrence E.
Sent: Friday,
May 08, 1998 9:13 PM
To: Bandler, Donald K.
Subject: FW: STEINBERG
CNN INTERVIEW package [UNCLASSIFIED]
Importance: High

-----Original
Message-----

From: Butler, Lawrence E.
Sent: Friday, May 08, 1998
8:48 PM
To: Bandler, Donald K.
Cc: Rubin, Eric S.
Subject: STEINBERG
CNN INTERVIEW package [UNCLASSIFIED]
Importance: High

Don --

for your clearance, please. It's not exactly inspired, but should
meet Jim's needs

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT

3345points.doc

STEINBERG CNN INTERVIEW
ISSUES AND POINTS TO MAKE
May 11, 1998

U.S. role in the peace process?

* The President is strongly committed to the cause of peace in Ireland and has made this a major priority in his administration's foreign policy. As you know, the 44 million Americans who trace their ancestry back to Ireland are evenly divided between the protestant and catholic traditions. The President, like all Americans, was prepared to reach out and support the efforts of the people in Northern Ireland to end political violence.

* This President was the first to take the initiative to ask Congress for funding for the International Fund for Ireland. IFI has made an important contribution to creating jobs and working on reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the border counties of the republic. Since 1993, we have provided \$100 million to the Fund's vital work.

* The President also took the unprecedented step of creating a special advisor position for economic initiatives for Ireland. George Mitchell was the first to fill that role. Senator Mitchell organized the first White House Conference on Trade and Investment in 1995 -- launching what has become a sustained, successful drive to increase awareness of U.S. business interests in opportunities in Ireland. There are more than 500 U.S. firms established today on the island.

* On the political side, the President reached the conclusion that Gerry Adams was genuinely interested in working for peace through exclusively democratic means. The President made the decision to issue Mr. Adams a visa, giving the Sinn Fein leader a chance to make his case in America. The first IRA cease fire resulted shortly after.

* As events transpired, the peace process stalled, Sinn Fein was not admitted to the talks and the IRA decided to end the cease-fire.

* During this period, we made it consistently clear that we would welcome the

renewal of the cease-fire, and strongly supported the position of the governments favoring inclusion of Sinn Fein in the talks chaired by former Senator Mitchell.

* In contacts last summer, we communicated our view that there were measures we could take to help Adams secure a renewal of the cease-fire -- which happened on July 10. With the exception of an unfortunate lapse during January's tragic round of killings, that cease-fire has held. Countless lives have been spared as a result, though a number of splinter groups continue to try to destroy the peace process.

* The U.S. has sought to be even-handed in dealing with the political leaders in Northern Ireland. Sandy Berger and I had meetings with Gerry Adams and the Loyalist party leaders in September; the President met with David Trimble in September, as the all-party talks in Belfast got under way.

* We were in close contact with the parties throughout the fall.

* In December, the President met with the new Irish Prime Minister, Bertie Ahern, and John Hume.

* In February, the President hosted Tony Blair for an official visit, and had extensive talks about prospects for concluding the talks.

* In March, the President "rang the bell" for the final lap of the talks by inviting all the party leaders to the White House. On St. Patrick's Day, the President devoted the whole day to a series of bilateral meetings with Bertie Ahern, David Trimble, Gerry Adams, John Hume, David Ervine and John Alderdice, hosting a large reception afterwards.

* His message to them was that they had accomplished much in a short time, but that time was running out and they needed to push to finish the talks. He asked them for their views on ways that we could be helpful. He stressed that he was prepared to do whatever was necessary to support the process.

* When the talks went into their final marathon session, Easter week, we maintained constant and close contact, keeping the President advised as the negotiators worked on a number of drafts.

* The first of his long night of calls to Belfast was with Blair at 10:30 p.m.

* At 12:30 a.m., the Prime Minister called the President again, sharing the phone with Ahern. At 12:50 a.m., the President called Gerry Adams and they spoke until 1:15 a.m. At 1:50 a.m., the President called John Hume, and they spoke until just after 2:00 a.m.

* The President then had a follow-up conversation with Mr. Berger and Mr. Steinberg, and a long call with Senator Mitchell at 3:15 a.m..

* At 5:00 a.m. the President spoke again with Mr. Adams.

* At 10:55 a.m. the President had a lengthy call with David Trimble. At 11:17 a.m., Prime Minister Blair again called the President. That call was briefly interrupted so that the Prime Minister could speak with Mr. Trimble.

* At 11:30 a.m., Prime Minister Blair again called. Blair asked the President to do several specific things to advance the prospects of arriving at a final agreement. Based on that call, the President first called Ahern and then John Hume -- just as Senator Mitchell was reconvening the final plenary session -- where the agreement was approved.

Post-referendum developments, next steps?

* The President and the Administration will continue to look for ways to engage with the government of the United Kingdom and the government of Ireland on the peace process in Northern Ireland. Our interest in peace in Northern Ireland is ongoing and long-term; our commitment to the parties and to the work of promoting economic opportunity in Northern Ireland will continue. We will

pursue these initiatives into the future because they build a platform that will allow both communities to seize the opportunity afforded by this peace agreement to build better lives for their people.

* If the Accord passes at referendum, the political parties will have a month to prepare for elections, and then have until February to get an Assembly up and running. That presents quite a challenge as they will have to implement a legislature with a complicated decision-making structure. The President has committed the U.S. to contribute \$500,000 to help fund programs for developing Northern Ireland's new political institutions.

* Beyond that, the United States is committed to helping the people of Northern Ireland realize the fruits of peace. Education is one way to ensure that the work force has the skills to make Northern Ireland an attractive place for investment.

* The President announced on Thursday that he is committed to seeing that the new West Belfast Springvale Campus project is completed. This is a project that we and our partners in the International Fund for Ireland envisioned four years ago with a pledge of almost \$8 million. We will now work with the Congress to make available up to \$5 million to make this a reality.

President travel to Ireland?

* The First Lady will go to Belfast this fall to participate in a conversation with the women of Northern Ireland on ways to reconcile differences and build on what we will hope will be a new environment of peace brought about by the Good Friday Agreement.

* The President assessed the situation in Ireland, north and south, and concluded that the focus of efforts to follow up on the April 10 Accord should be where it is. The government, political parties, community and business leaders

have a lot
of work to do to explain the agreement to their constituencies, to
argue its
merits, and to inform the decision that citizens there must freely make.

* No one should have any doubt about the President's belief that this
agreement
represents the best chance of a generation to build a lasting peace in
Northern
Ireland, one that the people there deserve. But they must arrive at that
conclusion themselves because they are the ones who will have to live
and deal
with the consequences -- no matter which way the vote goes.

* The President has indicated he would like to visit Ireland at the first
available opportunity. We will be looking at all the options for him,
but there
are no plans at present.

Decommissioning

* There are two issues here. The main one is that violence cannot be
tolerated
by any of the parties to the April 10 agreement -- the accord spells out
the
consequences of violence, reaffirming the Mitchell Principles
governing the
negotiations that all the parties signed up to.

* Second, Senator Mitchell prepared a document in 1996 outlining
how this should
be handled. Subsequently, the governments established an
independent commission
to elaborate plans to dispose of illegal weapons as they are turned in.
We
seconded a senior American diplomat, Donald Johnson, who has
extensive mediating
and legal experience in international bodies, to the Commission. We
are
confident that this issue will be dealt with as the April 10 agreement is
implemented.

Parades. The Parades Commission is on life-support. It has no
credible
nationalists as members, and two loyalists recently quit. All decisions
so far
have been to ban parades, but Blair blocked release of report with
recommendations on the most contentious marches (July 1 and July
12 - Drumcree)
in advance of the referendum. This was the right decision, but it only
defers

tackling this issue. The IAUC has asked us to send official observers to those marches. Alan Hevesi sent a pretty blunt letter to the Parades Commission demanding that the marches be banned.

* Appreciate the emotions associated with the Loyal Order marches. We too have our own share of dispute public gatherings and demonstrations. Given the April 10 agreement, we are hopeful that people will begin to work creatively to find mutually-acceptable solutions.

Prisoners. There are two IRA prisoners left in British jails, several hundred IRA and loyalist in Northern Ireland and some number in the Republic (12 are already back on the street). The agreement says all will be released within two years if their organizations continue to refrain from violence. The INLA, CIRA and LVF have prisoners are not yet eligible for early release as their groups do not have cease-fires. There was an erroneous report in Belfast that AID was planning a "Maze to Miami" prisoner rehabilitation program after an OTI representative visited Northern Ireland.

* The prospect for a return to normal life is a powerful force for the maintenance of peace and successful implementation of the April 10 Accord. We can also appreciate feelings of their victims, as the President said during recent meeting with WAVE. The hope is that there are no more victims, or prisoners.

* We hope other paramilitary groups will join those working for peace and declare cease-fires.

* U.S. is not planning programs for former prisoners in the United States, but will encourage efforts to reintegrate these persons into society.

Police Reform. Chris Patten has been appointed to head a commission to make recommendations on RUC reform. With more than 8,000 full time police officers on the force, most of them protestant, the end of violence inevitably will

lead to downsizing. This will offer opportunities to build stronger ties between the police force and the communities they serve. The challenge is to make the force more representative and accountable to the public.

* We know from our own experience how important an effective police force is for public safety. We have a great deal of respect for the work of the RUC, for the risks they take every day when they go out on the street, and for the heavy price they have paid during the past 30 years.

* The President met last week with a former RUC policewoman who was shot three times. He saw the burden of pain she carries, but also bright hope for the future as she is part of a cross-community victims support effort working for reconciliation and healing.

* The people of Northern Ireland have the right to look to the day when their law officers, and citizens, do not have to fear from bombs and bullets as they do their job.

Extradition

* The three cases of extradition of persons connected to the IRA and wanted in the United Kingdom are subject to our international obligations and other considerations. I am not able to comment on the specifics of those proceedings.

Deportation

* A small number of persons residing in the United States who had been members of the IRA have been the subject of U.S. deportation proceedings.

* The Secretary of State determined last fall that suspension of those efforts would contribute to the confidence of the parties in the upcoming peace talks. The forcible return of these persons to Northern Ireland could have a negative impact on their community at a crucial point in the peace process. There is no

change in their status for the time being.

* This action did not constitute an approval of their past acts of terrorism, nor do we accept the legal arguments against deportation advanced in some of their cases. The six individuals immediately affected have resided in the United States peacefully and have families. They were not, and are not, wanted for any offenses here or in the UK. They pose no threat to American security.

7

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT 3345JSCNNmemo.doc

May 8, 1998

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR JAMES STEINBERG

THROUGH: DONALD K. BANDLER

FROM: LAWRENCE E. BUTLER

SUBJECT: Your interview with CNN
3:00-3:30p.m., Monday, May 11
White House TV Studio, 459 OEOB

Setting

CNN's John King is doing a 30-minute special on the history of the Troubles and the Northern Ireland Peace Process. The show will air on CNN's Worldview program during the week prior to the May 22 referendum (timing is not yet set).

King is interested in talking to you about the U.S. role in the peace process, the President's personal involvement, and our views on the way ahead. While the program will be primarily historical in nature, King will ask some questions about how we see the process moving forward after the referendum. He plans to

emphasize the central role that the U.S., and the President in particular, played in making the Belfast agreement happen.

King would like to talk to you on background for a few minutes sometime prior to the taping to get a sense of your views and also to give you a sense of the questions he will be asking. If that is not possible, we can arrange to speak to him and relay the potential questions to you. Please advise your preference.

King has already spoken to Nancy Soderberg on background about the history of U.S. involvement during the first term. You will be the only Administration official interviewed on camera.

Given that this interview will air prior to the referendum, your objectives in this interview are to project the positive role the President and the United States have played in Ireland, north and south, in political and economic terms -- stressing our role in fostering economic development and providing neutral political encouragement for an end to violence and commitment to a purely political process.

We have prepared points for you to make on these issues, as well as the "tic-toc" chronology for your preparation.

Concurrences by: Eric Rubin

Tab A Issues and Points

Tab B Northern Ireland peace process chronology

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Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 5/8/98 9:46:32 PM

FROM Butler, Lawrence E.

CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT STEINBERG CNN INTERVIEW package [UNCLASSIFIED]

TO Bartlett, L. June
Cosgriff, Kevin J.
Davies, Glyn T.
Dejban, Donna D.
Elkon, Nicole L.
Hill, Roseanne M.
Hilliard, Brenda I.
Hurwitz, Marc I.
Joshi, M. Kay
Kerrick, Donald L.
Millison, Cathy L.
Poole, Jennifer C.
Rice, Edward A.

CARBON_COPY Rubin, Eric S.
Bandler, Donald K.
Braden, Susan R.
Brown, Keirn C.
Butler, Lawrence E.
Covey, James P.
Dowling, John N. (Nick)
Flanagan, Stephen J.
Marshall, Betty A.
Maxfield, Nancy H.
McEldowney, Nancy E.
Quinn, Mary E.
Sapiro, Miriam E.

TEXT_BODY

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT 3345points.doc

STEINBERG CNN INTERVIEW
ISSUES AND POINTS TO MAKE
May 11, 1998

U.S. role in the peace process?

* The President is strongly committed to the cause of peace in Ireland and has made this a major priority in his administration's foreign policy. As you know, the 44 million Americans who trace their ancestry back to Ireland are evenly divided between the protestant and catholic traditions. The President, like all Americans, was prepared to reach out and support the efforts of the people in Northern Ireland to end political violence.

* This President was the first to take the initiative to ask Congress for funding for the International Fund for Ireland. IFI has made an important contribution to creating jobs and working on reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the border counties of the republic. Since 1993, we have provided \$100 million to the Fund's vital work.

* The President also took the unprecedented step of creating a special advisor position for economic initiatives for Ireland. George Mitchell was the first to fill that role. Senator Mitchell organized the first White House Conference on Trade and Investment in 1995 -- launching what has become a sustained, successful drive to increase awareness of U.S. business interests in opportunities in Ireland. There are more than 500 U.S. firms established today on the island.

* On the political side, the President reached the conclusion that Gerry Adams was genuinely interested in working for peace through exclusively democratic means. The President made the decision to issue Mr. Adams a visa, giving the Sinn Fein leader a chance to make his case in America. The first IRA cease fire resulted shortly after.

* As events transpired, the peace process stalled, Sinn Fein was not admitted to the talks and the IRA decided to end the cease-fire.

* During this period, we made it consistently clear that we would

welcome the renewal of the cease-fire, and strongly supported the position of the governments favoring inclusion of Sinn Fein in the talks chaired by former Senator Mitchell.

* In contacts last summer, we communicated our view that there were measures we could take to help Adams secure a renewal of the cease-fire -- which happened on July 10. With the exception of an unfortunate lapse during January's tragic round of killings, that cease-fire has held. Countless lives have been spared as a result, though a number of splinter groups continue to try to destroy the peace process.

* The U.S. has sought to be even-handed in dealing with the political leaders in Northern Ireland. Sandy Berger and I had meetings with Gerry Adams and the Loyalist party leaders in September; the President met with David Trimble in September, as the all-party talks in Belfast got under way.

* We were in close contact with the parties throughout the fall.

* In December, the President met with the new Irish Prime Minister, Bertie Ahern, and John Hume.

* In February, the President hosted Tony Blair for an official visit, and had extensive talks about prospects for concluding the talks.

* In March, the President "rang the bell" for the final lap of the talks by inviting all the party leaders to the White House. On St. Patrick's Day, the President devoted the whole day to a series of bilateral meetings with Bertie Ahern, David Trimble, Gerry Adams, John Hume, David Ervine and John Alderdice, hosting a large reception afterwards.

* His message to them was that they had accomplished much in a short time, but that time was running out and they needed to push to finish the talks. He asked them for their views on ways that we could be helpful. He stressed that he was

prepared to do whatever was necessary to support the process.

* When the talks went into their final marathon session, Easter week, we maintained constant and close contact, keeping the President advised as the negotiators worked on a number of drafts.

* The first of his long night of calls to Belfast was with Blair at 10:30 p.m.

* At 12:30 a.m., the Prime Minister called the President again, sharing the phone with Ahern. At 12:50 a.m., the President called Gerry Adams and they spoke until 1:15 a.m. At 1:50 a.m., the President called John Hume, and they spoke until just after 2:00 a.m.

* The President then had a follow-up conversation with Mr. Berger and Mr. Steinberg, and a long call with Senator Mitchell at 3:15 a.m..

* At 5:00 a.m. the President spoke again with Mr. Adams.

* At 10:55 a.m. the President had a lengthy call with David Trimble. At 11:17 a.m., Prime Minister Blair again called the President. That call was briefly interrupted so that the Prime Minister could speak with Mr. Trimble.

* At 11:30 a.m., Prime Minister Blair again called. Blair asked the President to do several specific things to advance the prospects of arriving at a final agreement. Based on that call, the President first called Ahern and then John Hume -- just as Senator Mitchell was reconvening the final plenary session -- where the agreement was approved.

Post-referendum developments, next steps?

* The President and the Administration will continue to look for ways to engage with the government of the United Kingdom and the government of Ireland on the peace process in Northern Ireland. Our interest in peace in Northern Ireland is ongoing and long-term; our commitment to the parties and to the work of promoting

economic opportunity in Northern Ireland will continue. We will pursue these initiatives into the future because they build a platform that will allow both communities to seize the opportunity afforded by this peace agreement to build better lives for their people.

* If the Accord passes at referendum, the political parties will have a month to prepare for elections, and then have until February to get an Assembly up and running. That presents quite a challenge as they will have to implement a legislature with a complicated decision-making structure. The President has committed the U.S. to contribute \$500,000 to help fund programs for developing Northern Ireland's new political institutions.

* Beyond that, the United States is committed to helping the people of Northern Ireland realize the fruits of peace. Education is one way to ensure that the work force has the skills to make Northern Ireland an attractive place for investment.

* The President announced on Thursday that he is committed to seeing that the new West Belfast Springvale Campus project is completed. This is a project that we and our partners in the International Fund for Ireland envisioned four years ago with a pledge of almost \$8 million. We will now work with the Congress to make available up to \$5 million to make this a reality.

President travel to Ireland?

* The First Lady will go to Belfast this fall to participate in a conversation with the women of Northern Ireland on ways to reconcile differences and build on what we will hope will be a new environment of peace brought about by the Good Friday Agreement.

* The President assessed the situation in Ireland, north and south, and concluded that the focus of efforts to follow up on the April 10 Accord should be where it

is. The government, political parties, community and business leaders have a lot of work to do to explain the agreement to their constituencies, to argue its merits, and to inform the decision that citizens there must freely make.

* No one should have any doubt about the President's belief that this agreement represents the best chance of a generation to build a lasting peace in Northern Ireland, one that the people there deserve. But they must arrive at that conclusion themselves because they are the ones who will have to live and deal with the consequences -- no matter which way the vote goes.

* The President has indicated he would like to visit Ireland at the first available opportunity. We will be looking at all the options for him, but there are no plans at present.

Decommissioning

* There are two issues here. The main one is that violence cannot be tolerated by any of the parties to the April 10 agreement -- the accord spells out the consequences of violence, reaffirming the Mitchell Principles governing the negotiations that all the parties signed up to.

* Second, Senator Mitchell prepared a document in 1996 outlining how this should be handled. Subsequently, the governments established an independent commission to elaborate plans to dispose of illegal weapons as they are turned in. We seconded a senior American diplomat, Donald Johnson, who has extensive mediating and legal experience in international bodies, to the Commission. We are confident that this issue will be dealt with as the April 10 agreement is implemented.

Parades. The Parades Commission is on life-support. It has no credible nationalists as members, and two loyalists recently quit. All decisions so far have been to ban parades, but Blair blocked release of report with recommendations on the most contentious marches (July 1 and July 12 - Drumcree) in advance of the referendum. This was the right decision, but it only

defers
tackling this issue. The IAUC has asked us to send official observers
to those
marches. Alan Hevesi sent a pretty blunt letter to the Parades
Commission
demanding that the marches be banned.

* Appreciate the emotions associated with the Loyal Order marches.
We too have
our own share of dispute public gatherings and demonstrations. Given
the April
10 agreement, we are hopeful that people will begin to work
creatively to find
mutually-acceptable solutions.

Prisoners. There are two IRA prisoners left in British jails, several
hundred
IRA and loyalist in Northern Ireland and some number in the
Republic (12 are
already back on the street). The agreement says all will be released
within two
years if their organizations continue to refrain from violence. The
INLA, CIRA
and LVF have prisoners are not yet eligible for early release as their
groups do
not have cease-fires. There was an erroneous report in Belfast that
AID was
planning a "Maze to Miami" prisoner rehabilitation program after an
OTI
representative visited Northern Ireland.

* The prospect for a return to normal life is a powerful force for the
maintenance of peace and successful implementation of the April 10
Accord. We
can also appreciate feelings of their victims, as the President said
during
recent meeting with WAVE. The hope is that there are no more
victims, or
prisoners.

* We hope other paramilitary groups will join those working for peace
and declare
cease-fires.

* U.S. is not planning programs for former prisoners in the United
States, but
will encourage efforts to reintegrate these persons into society.

Police Reform. Chris Patten has been appointed to head a commission
to make
recommendations on RUC reform. With more than 8,000 full time
police officers on

the force, most of them protestant, the end of violence inevitably will lead to downsizing. This will offer opportunities to build stronger ties between the police force and the communities they serve. The challenge is to make the force more representative and accountable to the public.

* We know from our own experience how important an effective police force is for public safety. We have a great deal of respect for the work of the RUC, for the risks they take every day when they go out on the street, and for the heavy price they have paid during the past 30 years.

* The President met last week with a former RUC policewoman who was shot three times. He saw the burden of pain she carries, but also bright hope for the future as she is part of a cross-community victims support effort working for reconciliation and healing.

* The people of Northern Ireland have the right to look to the day when their law officers, and citizens, do not have to fear from bombs and bullets as they do their job.

Extradition

* The three cases of extradition of persons connected to the IRA and wanted in the United Kingdom are subject to our international obligations and other considerations. I am not able to comment on the specifics of those proceedings.

Deportation

* A small number of persons residing in the United States who had been members of the IRA have been the subject of U.S. deportation proceedings.

* The Secretary of State determined last fall that suspension of those efforts would contribute to the confidence of the parties in the upcoming peace talks. The forcible return of these persons to Northern Ireland could have a negative impact on their community at a crucial point in the peace process.

There is no
change in their status for the time being.

* This action did not constitute an approval of their past acts of terrorism, nor do we accept the legal arguments against deportation advanced in some of their cases. The six individuals immediately affected have resided in the United States peacefully and have families. They were not, and are not, wanted for any offenses here or in the UK. They pose no threat to American security.

7

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT 3345JSCNNmemo.doc

May 8, 1998

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR JAMES STEINBERG

THROUGH: DONALD K. BANDLER

FROM: LAWRENCE E. BUTLER

SUBJECT: Your interview with CNN
3:00-3:30p.m., Monday, May 11
White House TV Studio, 459 OEOB

Setting

CNN's John King is doing a 30-minute special on the history of the Troubles and the Northern Ireland Peace Process. The show will air on CNN's Worldview program during the week prior to the May 22 referendum (timing is not yet set).

King is interested in talking to you about the U.S. role in the peace process, the President's personal involvement, and our views on the way ahead. While the program will be primarily historical in nature, King will ask some questions about how we see the process moving forward after the referendum.

He plans to
emphasize the central role that the U.S., and the President in
particular, played
in making the Belfast agreement happen.

King would like to talk to you on background for a few minutes
sometime prior to
the taping to get a sense of your views and also to give you a sense of
the
questions he will be asking. If that is not possible, we can arrange to
speak to
him and relay the potential questions to you. Please advise your
preference.

King has already spoken to Nancy Soderberg on background about the
history of
U.S. involvement during the first term. You will be the only
Administration
official interviewed on camera.

Given that this interview will air prior to the referendum, your
objectives in
this interview are to project the positive role the President and the
United
States have played in Ireland, north and south, in political and
economic terms
-- stressing our role in fostering economic development and providing
neutral
political encouragement for an end to violence and commitment to a
purely
political process.

We have prepared points for you to make on these issues, as well as
the "tic-toc"
chronology for your preparation.

Concurrences by: Eric Rubin

Tab A Issues and Points

Tab B Northern Ireland peace process chronology

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT Irelandtimeline.doc
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Chronology

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May 14 The President met with Irish President Robinson at the White House.

December The President declared his support for the work of the Irish and British governments in a statement welcoming the Downing Street Declaration that provided the framework for the current talks process.

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April Vice President and Anthony Lake met with UUP Leader James Molyneaux and SDLP Leader John Hume.

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DATE-TIME 7/7/99 1:14:38 PM

FROM Butler, Lawrence E. (EUR)

CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT FOR JBS -- timeline on Presidential involvement in Irish peace process
[UNCLASSIFIED]

TO Crocker, Bathsheba N.
Crowley, Philip J. (PRESS)

CARBON_COPY Crocker, Bathsheba N.
Davies, Glyn T. (EXSEC)
Dejban, Donna D. (NSA)
Hachigian, Nina L. (NSA)
Kerrick, Donald L. (NSA)
Millison, Cathy L. (EXSEC)
Mitchell, Rebecca (Julie) J. (NSA)
Moretz, Sheila K. (NSA)
Rudman, Mara E. (CNSLR)
Sargeant, Stephen T. (EXSEC)
Scott-Perez, Marilyn L. (NSA)
Storey, Sharon V. (NSA)
Sutphen, Mona K. (NSA)

TEXT_BODY For Jim's review prior to 3 p.m. interview.

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT IrelandtimelineA.doc
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November 1 President's announcement of the White House initiative to support the peace process in Northern Ireland (NI) and the six border counties of the Republic of Ireland.

November 25 Decision memo goes to the President on how to handle Gerry Adams request for a visa to his December 7-13 visit (fundraising restrictions, etc.)

November 30 Announced Anthony Lake invited Gerry Adams to meet with him at the White House. Also announced Adams granted a waiver for a multiple entry visa valid for 90 days.

December 1 The President appointed Senator George Mitchell as Special Advisor for Economic Initiatives for Ireland.

December 6 Anthony Lake met with Gerry Adams at the White House. (Ron Brown also briefly joined the meeting.)

December The President instructed Commerce Secretary Ron Brown

led a delegation
to attend the Belfast investment conference to identify new
opportunities for
American business.
1995

February Joint Framework Document issued by the two governments
laid foundation
for all-party talks within the three-strand framework.

March Administration removed restriction on Sinn Fein fundraising
for Adams.
Monitoring system put in place to assure funds used for legitimate
political
activities.

March 17 The President met with Irish Prime Minister Bruton and
hosts the St.
Patrick's Day reception at the White House. Members of all parties
invited.

May 24-25 The President hosted first White House Conference on
Trade and
Investment in Ireland.

October President met the new leader of the Ulster Unionist party,
David
Trimble.

November British and Irish Governments announced the launching of
the "twin
track" approach for moving the peace process forward. Senator
George Mitchell
asked to look into weapons decommissioning while preliminary
political
consultations took place.

November 30 President visited Northern Ireland and Ireland. His visit
and
speeches galvanized popular support for peace.

1996

January International Body issued report concluding decommissioning
not feasible,
recommending parties adopt Mitchell Principles of non-violence.
Prime Minister
Major announced election as route to all-party talks.

February 9 Canary Wharf bombing ends IRA cease-fire.

February 28 The two governments set June 10 as the date for all-party

talks, in
which Sinn Fein can participate provided the cease-fire is restored.

March Visa granted to Adams to hear Irish American support for
restoration of
cease-fire. Undertook not to fundraise; not invited to White House St.
Patrick's
Day reception.

March 17 President meets Irish Prime Minister Bruton and hosts the
St. Patrick's
Day reception at the White House.

April British government introduced and passed legislation to hold
election on
May 30 to elect 110 representatives from whom parties' negotiators
will be
chosen.

October The President hosted the second White House Conference on
Investment in
Ireland, in Pittsburgh. IRA explodes a deadly car bomb on a British
military
based in Northern Ireland during conference.

1997

March 17 Vice President stood in for injured President Clinton to
meet Irish
Prime Minister Bruton and host the St. Patrick's Day reception.

May 10 President visited briefly with newly elected British Prime
Minister Blair
in London.

July 19 IRA cease-fire renewal announced. White House released
President's
statement welcoming this development.

August 29 Mowlam announced that Britain found the IRA cease-fire
genuine in word
and deed.

September 3 Sandy Berger met Gerry Adams at the White House.
Adams also engaged
in fund raising in New York.

September 9 Secretaries of State and Justice suspend deportation
proceedings
against certain individuals with IRA-related convictions.

September 15 Chairman Mitchell opens first session with Sinn Fein in the talks.

September 17 Unionists and Loyalists enter the talks, White House issued welcoming statement.

September 22 The President releases \$19.6 million for the International Fund for Ireland, FY 97.

September 24 The President named James Lyons to succeed Mitchell as Special Advisor for economic initiatives.

October 7 President dropped in on Berger meeting with UUP delegation.

October 30-31 First Lady visited Dublin and Belfast, gave speech in honor of Joyce McCartan at Waterfront Hall.

December 8 President and Sandy Berger met with John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic Liberal Party

December 15 President meets with Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern in the Oval Office

December 27 Tit-for-tat revenge killings claim a dozen lives in January.

1998

January 12 Irish and British governments released "heads of agreement" document to parties. White House welcomed.

February 5 President hosted Prime Minister Blair for official visit, discussed Northern Ireland.

February 20 Sinn Fein suspended from talks due to killing of two persons by IRA. White House supports.

March 16-17 St. Patrick's Day -- the President met with five of the talks party leaders and Irish Prime Minister, and hosted the evening reception at the White House. Sandy Berger and Jim Steinberg met with six of the party leaders and Mo

Mowlam. First Lady met with Mo Mowlam and Women's Coalition delegation.

April 5 The President called British Prime Minister Blair to discuss the NI peace process

April 7 The President called Irish Prime Minister Ahern to offer condolences on Ahern's mother's death and discuss the peace process

April 6-9 Jim Steinberg and Larry Butler stayed in regular contact with governments and parties regarding the talks.

April 9-10 President made six calls from 10 p.m. through noon next day to offer support and encouragement to conclude Good Friday Accord.

May 10 President meets with victims of violence to announce new initiatives for Northern Ireland

September 3-6 President visits Northern Ireland and Ireland

1999

March 17 President meets with Ahern, Adams, Trimble, and Mallon to encourage tackling decommissioning/executive impasse ahead of first anniversary of Good Friday. Talks to Adams alone, puts Trimble and Adams together on second floor of WH to work on things.

March 29-April 1 POTUS spoke with Blair, Adams and Ahern during Hillsborough talks.

April 1-June 10 During Kosovo action, POTUS raised Ireland repeated with Blair.

April 29 POTUS-Blair regarding ways to move forward with executive

May 5 JBS met with Martin McGuinness

May 8 POTUS spoke to Blair in run-up to the Downing street effort to move process forward (setting June 1 as target to run D'Hondt).

May 23 POTUS spoke to Blair

June 1 Mo defers running D'Hondt

June 18-20 POTUS talks to Blair at G-8

June 30- July 5 POTUS speaks to Blair, Ahern, Trimble, Adams and Hume (total of 13 calls, including talking to Blair while at Cubs game and to Ahern during U.S.-German Women's Soccer world cup match) to urge progress as Blair tables "Way Forward" proposal.