

FOIA MARKER

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

Folder Title:

[Ireland]-Ireland/U.K. Trip-Decommissioning

Staff Office-Individual:

Staff Director-Soderberg, Nancy

Original OA/ID Number:

1397

Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:	Stack:
49	1	3	1	V

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	Anthony Lake to Roderic Lyne (3 pages)	11/12/1995	P1/b(1) K8H 6/14/2023
002. list	re: Possible Members of International Body (1 page)	11/17/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Staff Director (Nancy Soderberg)
OA/Box Number: 1397

FOLDER TITLE:

[Ireland]-Ireland/U.K. Trip-Decommissioning

2011-0355-F
rs1673

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

IMMEDIATE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

Jodi-
File
decommunize

PAGE 01 OF 03

PRT: BASS BERGER COMM LAKE SIT SODERBERG
SIT: COQ HOTLINE_OUT LAKEA SIGLER SUM SUM2

<PREC> IMMEDIATE <CLAS> ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ <DTG> 121645Z NOV 95

FM WHITE HOUSE

DECLASSIFIED
PER E.O. 13526
2011-0355-F(2.91)
KRB 4/11/2023

TO CABINET OFFICE

INFO ////

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (EYES ONLY) VIA CABINET CHANNELS

QQQQ

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM ANTHONY LAKE EYES ONLY TO
RODERIC LYNE THROUGH EDWARD OAKDEN AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY.

BEGIN TEXT:

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM ANTHONY LAKE FOR RODERIC LYNE

DEAR ROD:

LIKE YOU, WE WERE DISAPPOINTED THAT THE ANCRAM-MCGUINNESS TALKS
DID NOT RESOLVE THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES RELATED TO THE TWIN-TRACK
STRATEGY. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THERE IS A DANGER OF STALEMATE
SETTING IN WITH THE PEACE PROCESS. I THINK YOU AND I NEED TO
DISCUSS THIS ISSUE IN DETAIL AT THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY. IN THE
MEANTIME, I WOULD LIKE TO LAY OUT FOR YOU OUR CUURENT THINKING ON
THE STATUS OF THE PROCESS AND HOW IT MIGHT BE MOVED FORWARD. I
UNDERSTAND THAT PRIME MINISTER BRUTON'S SPEECH IN LONDON LAST
EVENING MAY HAVE NARROWED THE OPTIONS, BUT I HOPE IT WILL NOT BE
SEEN AS PRECLUDING ANY ACTION IN THE COMING WEEKS.

IN SPITE OF THE DEADLOCK IN THE ANCRAM MCGUINNESS TALKS, I REMAIN
CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE PROSPECTS FOR THE TWIN TRACK
APPROACH. SINN FEIN HAS, IN FACT, ALREADY AGREED TO THE
ESSENTIAL POINT -- THAT IT WILL COOPERATE WITH THE INTERNATIONAL
BODY AND SPEAK AUTHORITATIVELY ON THE ISSUE OF IRA WEAPONS. ON
THE OTHER KEY ISSUE, THE TARGET DATE, YOU AND DUBLIN DO NOT SEEM
TOO FAR APART. IF DUBLIN IS PROPOSING SIX WEEKS FROM WHEN THE
INTERNATIONAL BODY BEGINS ITS WORK, AND YOUR GOVERNMENT IS STILL
PREPARED TO OFFER TWO AND A HALF TO THREE MONTHS FROM THE
LAUNCHING OF THE TWIN TRACK, THE WINDOW FOR THE TARGET DATE WOULD
BE BETWEEN MID-JANUARY AND MID-FEBRUARY. I WOULD THINK WE COULD
CONVINCE SINN FEIN THAT A TARGET DATE IN THAT PERIOD, FOR
INSTANCE JANUARY 31, WOULD BE REASONABLE.

ON THE "REMIT" ISSUE, IN OUR VIEW YOU HAVE ALREADY ACHIEVED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

IMMEDIATE

~~**CONFIDENTIAL**~~

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02 OF 03

AGREEMENT THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE BODY IS TO DEAL WITH PARAMILITARY ARMS. SINN FEIN'S CONCERN IS WITH THE PUBLIC PRESENTATION, RATHER THAN THE ESSENCE OF THE MANDATE.

SINCE, IN SUBSTANCE, AGREEMENT ON THE TWIN TRACK IS WITHIN REACH, I HOPE WE CAN ENSURE THAT THIS ISSUE DOES NOT DOMINATE THE AGENDA FOR THE PRESIDENT'S UPCOMING VISIT TO THE UK. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT A POSSIBLE WAY FORWARD ON THE TWIN TRACK, WHICH WOULD NOT REQUIRE ANY COMPROMISE BY YOUR GOVERNMENT, WOULD BE TO ISSUE A VERY SHORT ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE LAUNCHING OF THE TWIN TRACK, WITHOUT FANFARE AND WITHOUT A SUMMIT. THIS COULD BE AN ANNOUNCEMENT ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

"THE TWO GOVERNMENTS HAVE DECIDED TO CONVENE BY XXX THE TWIN TRACK PROCESS TO ADVANCE THE PEACE PROCESS IN NORTHERN IRELAND.

PARALLEL TO PREPARATORY TALKS WITH THE PARTIES IN NORTHERN IRELAND, AN INDEPENDENT INTERNATIONAL BODY WILL BE ESTABLISHED TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF DECOMMISSIONING AND WILL BE HEADED BY A DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN, ASSISTED BY TWO OTHER PROMINENT INDIVIDUALS WHO INSPIRE WIDESPREAD CONFIDENCE.

THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WILL SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BODY ON THEIR MERITS. THE GOAL IS TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE CONVENING OF TALKS IN AN ALL-PARTY FORMAT NOT LATER THAN (JANUARY 31/FEBRUARY 1, 1996)."

SUCH AN ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD OBTAIN THE NEED TO NEGOTIATE THE DETAILS OF A FORMAL COMMUNIQUE. IT WOULD BE LEFT TO YOU AND TO DUBLIN TO BRING ALONG OTHER PARTIES. WE, OF COURSE, WOULD BE PREPARED TO HELP AS NEEDED. YOUR GOVERNMENT COULD UNDERSCORE FOR THE PRESS THAT THE BODY IS BEING SET UP TO ADDRESS DECOMMISSIONING OF PARAMILITARY WEAPONS. WE AND GEORGE MITCHELL COULD HELP MAKE CLEAR THAT THE BODY'S PURPOSE IS TO DEAL WITH PARAMILITARY WEAPONS, WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT SINN FEIN WOULD BE FREE TO RAISE OTHER ISSUES.

I FULLY RECOGNIZE THAT THE LAUNCHING OF THE TWIN TRACK STRATEGY, BY WHATEVER MEANS, LEAVES YOU WITH THE PROBLEM OF BRINGING THE UNIONISTS ON BOARD. BUT I DO THINK IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO GET THE ACQUIESCENCE OF THE UUP, SINCE THEY ARE NOT BEING ASKED TO DO ANYTHING AT THIS STAGE BUT CONTINUE DIALOGUE WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT. INCLUDING THE PROPOSAL FOR AN ELECTED ASSEMBLY IN THE POLITICAL TRACK WOULD MAKE IT MORE ACCEPTABLE TO THE UNIONISTS. IT SEEMS TO US THAT THE POLITICAL TRACK COULD DISCUSS A WHOLE RANGE OF IDEAS, SUCH AS HAVING AN ELECTED ASSEMBLY NAME NEGOTIATORS FOR ALL-PARTY TALKS.

~~**CONFIDENTIAL**~~

IMMEDIATE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 03 OF 03

I ALSO WANTED TO RAISE WITH YOU THE SITUATION IN NIGERIA. WE ARE ALL DEEPLY CONCERNED BY THE EXECUTIONS OF KEN SARO-WIWA AND HIS EIGHT COLLEAGUES. WE APPRECIATE THE PRIME MINISTER'S STRONG REMARKS CONDEMNING THE ACTION. WE WERE ALSO ENCOURAGED BY THE STRONG STEPS TAKEN TODAY BY THE COMMONWEALTH. WE HAVE ANNOUNCED A SERIES OF OUR OWN MEASURES AND WILL BE DISCUSSING AT THE UN WHAT ADDITIONAL MEASURES MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE EARLY NEXT WEEK. I LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING OUR CLOSE COOPERATION ON THIS ISSUE.

I HOPE WE CAN FIND AN OPPORTUNITY TO TALK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ABOUT NORTHERN IRELAND.

WARM REGARDS,

TONY

END TEXT

DECL: OADR

#7301

NNNN

<MSGID> M1946722

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO: NES

FROM: MAP

KB -
add to
notebook

There was no explicit mention of decommissioning in the Downing Street Declaration. The case the Brits and the unionists make is based on the language quoted in paragraph 3 of this cable which says, "democratically mandated parties which establish a commitment to *exclusively peaceful means* and which have shown they abide by the democratic process are free to participate fully in democratic politics and to join in dialogue in due course between the governments and the political parties on the way ahead". The italics are mine, because those three words are used, especially by Molyneaux, to justify the insistence on decommissioning.

The Brits claim that while the declaration was not explicit, both PM Reynolds and Sinn Fein were aware that decommissioning would be part of the exploratory talks HMG had promised within three months of a permanent cessation of violence. Attached is a briefing note HMG prepared to rebut Reynolds' recent comments. It cites statements by Spring, Mayhew and Adams in December 1993-January 1994 which mention handing over weapons.

I don't know whether there were talks between HMG and Sinn Fein on decommissioning or conditions for all-party talks between the Downing Street Declaration in December 1993 and the cease-fire announcement the following August. HMG denies that there was a secret deal.

NES - FYI

MAP

KB-
put in
book
under
Decommissioning

STATE OF PLAY AS OF 11 A.M., SEPTEMBER 5

BASED ON NOTES FROM THE AMBASSADOR *Smith*

-- OVER THE LABOR DAY WEEKEND, THE AMBASSADOR MET AND/OR TALKED BY PHONE TO A NUMBER OF KEY FIGURES INVOLVED IN THE PREPARATION OF THE SEPTEMBER 6 SUMMIT.

-- THERE IS REAL SCRAMBLE GOING ON HERE BECAUSE SINN FEIN HAS ESSENTIALLY REJECTED THE IDEA OF AN INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION. AS GERRY ADAMS SAID IN HIS AUGUST 31 LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT, "THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAVE ALREADY SCUPPERED THE PROPOSAL OF INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION BY INSISTING THAT IT BE A DEVICE TO ACHIEVE THEIR DEMAND FOR AN ACTUAL SURRENDER OF IRA WEAPONS. IT IS INCONCEIVABLE THAT THE IRA WOULD ACCEPT AN INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION TO OVERSEE THE SURRENDER OF ITS WEAPONS IN RETURN FOR SINN FEIN'S INVOLVEMENT IN A LEVEL OF TALKS WHICH FALL FAR SHORT OF THOSE WHICH WERE PROMISED BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS PRIOR TO THE CESSATION LAST YEAR."

-- SINCE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION WAS ORIGINALLY KEN MAGINNIS'S IDEA, SINN FEIN REMAINS HIGHLY SUSPICIOUS OF IT. THEY ARE ALSO WARY OF THE COMMISSION SINCE IT WOULD PRESUMABLY BE STAFFED BY A "BUNCH OF COLONELS AND GENERALS" WHO WOULD NOT BE VERY SYMPATHETIC TO SINN FEIN.

-- JOHN HUME TOLD THE AMBASSADOR ON SEPTEMBER 4 THAT HE THOUGHT MAYBE A NEW FORM OF WORDS MIGHT HELP SINN FEIN ACCEPT THE DECOMMISSIONING PROCESS THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WERE PROPOSING. HUME SUGGESTED THAT INSTEAD OF HAVING GEORGE MITCHELL HEAD AN "INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION," HE BE NAMED AN "ARBITRATOR" WHO WOULD BE ASSISTED IN HIS WORK BY A PANEL OF "ADVISORS." APPARENTLY, WHEN FM SPRING BROUGHT UP THIS IDEA WITH MAYHEW DURING THEIR SEPTEMBER 4 MEETING, MAYHEW TURNED IT DOWN.

-- PM MAJOR AND THE TAOISEACH APPARENTLY TALKED AT 8 P.M. LAST NIGHT (SEPTEMBER 4), BUT IS NOT CLEAR WHAT CONCLUSIONS THEY CAME TO.

-- SEAN O'HUIGINN TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WOULD DECIDE BY LUNCHTIME TODAY WHETHER THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION WAS A "GO" OR NOT. HE SAID THAT IRELAND WOULD NOT ASK A "FRIEND" (I.E., THE U.S.) TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMISSION UNLESS SF WAS WILLING TO COOPERATE WITH IT. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THE BRITISH SHARE THIS VIEWPOINT, SINCE THEY HAVE ARGUED IN THE PAST FOR PROCEEDING WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION, WHETHER OR NOT PRIOR COMMITMENTS OF COOPERATION HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE PARAMILITARIES.

On 6, recommend to the British that they accept the Irish change of "weapons" to "arms". Recommend to the Irish that they agree to keep the British language on the arms silenced by the cease-fires and sell it to Sinn Fein on the basis that British as well as paramilitary arms have been silenced. On 7, accept the Irish insert "in the appropriate context and manner" which was accepted by the British in the draft communiqué for September 6. ✓

FALLBACKS

1. Suggest "In parallel, recognizing the widely expressed desire to see all arms removed from Irish politics, the two governments have agreed to establish an international body to provide an independent assessment of the decommissioning issue and to report on the arrangements necessary to resolve it!" The rest of 6 and all of 7 would be deleted. Alternative, drop 6 and keep 7. ✓

2. Combine Washington 1&2 along the following lines; "In particular the two governments will ask the body to consult the relevant parties and advise on whether there is a clear commitment to decommissioning ^{and methods} and on acceptable and appropriate arrangements to achieve that goal." ✓

Attachments

Text of Washington 1,2,&3

Relevant paragraphs of draft communiqué

Mayhew's⁰ Washington 1,2,3⁴

- 6 -

We look to Sinn Fein to provide the assurance that this is so. Following that, we need to be clear, for example, that they will join in exploring the various modalities of decommissioning of arms. This would include procedures for verification, the need for independent supervision of the destruction of arms, the different methods of decommissioning and certain practical and legal considerations.

We shall be pressing to achieve three things:

- A willingness in principle to disarm progressively;
- A common practical understanding of the modalities, that is to say what decommissioning would actually entail;
- In order to test the practical arrangements, and to demonstrate good faith, decommissioning of some arms as a tangible confidence building measure and to signal the start of a process.

5. In parallel, the two Governments have agreed to establish an International Body to provide an independent assessment of the decommissioning issue.

6. Recognising the widely expressed desire to see all arms (weapons) removed from Irish politics, the two Governments will ask the International Body to report on the arrangements necessary for the removal ~~from the political equation of arms now silenced~~ (of those arms and other material silenced by the

statements of 31 August, 1994 and 13 October, 1994 from the political equation).

7. In particular, the two Governments will ask the Body to:

identify and advise on a suitable and acceptable method for full and verifiable decommissioning; and

report whether there is a clear commitment on the part of those in possession of such arms to a satisfactory process to achieve that in the appropriate context and manner.

(no)

(yes)



British Embassy
Washington

17 November 1995

BY FAX

Ms Mary Ann Peters
NSC
The White House

3100 Massachusetts Ave. N.W.
Washington D.C. 20008-3600

Telephone: (202) 898 4264
Facsimile: (202) 898 4455

*Jodi put in
decomms
members*
**TO: NES
FROM: MAP**

Dear Mary Ann,

NORTHERN IRELAND

I mentioned to you that we had been giving some thought to who might be Senator Mitchell's co-members on the international body on decommissioning.

We have not yet reached agreement with the Irish Government on this. Our general view is that, for the purposes of balance, one of the other members might come from Canada, and a third from one of the smaller European countries regarded as neutral on Irish questions. This seems to be broadly in line with the Irish analysis.

/ I attach a list of names which we have sent to the Irish Government, with a request for comments. They appear to have reservations about military candidates, but it seems to us desirable to have at least one member with a military background.

We recognise that, if Senator Mitchell agrees to serve as chairman of the international body, he will not be able to work full-time on decommissioning - at least until the middle of January. He might, therefore, wish to appoint a senior staffer to work on his behalf in Ireland/Northern Ireland when he is away on other business.

I should like to emphasise the informal nature of this letter, which I am copying to Martha Pope on a personal basis.

4020
Peters.
Peter Westmacott

Post-It® Fax Note	7671	Date	17/11	# of pages	2
To	Mary Ann Peters	From	P. Westmacott		
Co/Dept	NSC	Co.			
Phone #	456 9151	Phone #			
Fax #	9150	Fax #			

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. list	re: Possible Members of International Body (1 page)	11/17/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Staff Director (Nancy Soderberg)
OA/Box Number: 1397

FOLDER TITLE:

[Ireland]-Ireland/U.K. Trip-Decommissioning

2011-0355-F
rs1673

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]



Northern Ireland Office
Stormont Castle
Belfast BT4 3ST

John Hume Esq MP MEP
6 Westend Park
LONDONDERRY
BT48 9JF

11 September 1995

John Hume:

I was very grateful for the opportunity to meet you and your colleagues this morning at Castle Buildings to discuss the current situation. I hope that you found it useful; I thought that there were several things discussed that might help move the process forward.

As we discussed, I thought it would also be helpful if I were to set out my understanding of the key points that we discussed, centreing on the text which you told us at the meeting you had agreed with Mr Adams, copy attached.

In our ensuing discussions on all-party talks, the following points as to the meaning and intent of a developed text emerged:

- (a) The first phase of the inclusive talks described in the text would be preparatory in nature, and would not constitute the substantive political discussions you describe as round table talks. The specified aim would be to lay the ground work for the start of all-party round table substantive talks by a particular date or, in Eddie McGrady's



- (b) The preparatory talks would be tri-lateral/bi-lateral in character, though we would not rule out the prospect of moving to a round table format in that preparatory phase if all were agreeable.
- (c) I indicated that a more realistic target date for the start of substantive round-table all-party talks would in my view be mid-December rather than early November, but that a 'not later than' formula could be employed.

On the question of decommissioning and an international commission, we discussed the following main points:

- (a) It was not clear whether the phrase 'all arms' in the text was intended to refer only to illegal arms held by the paramilitaries, or whether it also covered legally held arms including those held by the security forces. I said that it would be necessary for the text to specify that the commission was there to deal with illegally held arms, but to say explicitly once again that movement on this front would consequentially enable further troop reductions to be made, on the advice on the Chief Constable, leading ultimately to our objective of totally 'civilian' policing if the progress were maintained. It was made clear that the Government could not accept the broader of the two meanings.
- (b) It would be important to establish that Sinn Féin



We are now beginning the all party talks phase of the peace process which will lead to round table talks involving all parties by (early November date).

Parallel to this process both Governments have asked Senator George Mitchell to act as an International Arbiter to ensure that the question of all arms, now thankfully silenced, is settled to the satisfaction of both Governments.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

EUROPEAN DIRECTORATE

FAX COVER SHEET

*psi N
decommissioning***NATIONAL
SECURITY
COUNCIL**17th & Penn, N.W.
Washington, D.C.
20506Did you get a complete,
clear transmission? If
not, please call:

(202) 456-9151

From: MARY ANN PETERS**To: Nancy Soderberg****Agency:****Fax****Date/Time:****No. of pages to follow: 2****Message: This is what Martha and Dave prepared
following our conversation last week. They stress it
is just a first cut.**

DECOMMISSIONING COMMISSION

Commission: Composition

Commissioners

- o The Commission/Panel has three commissioners.
- o Senator George Mitchell chairs the Commission.
- o The British and Irish government agree on the two additional commissioners subject to Senator Mitchell's agreement or provide a list of acceptable candidates from which to choose.

Commission Staff

- o A full-time Executive Director, to be selected by Senator Mitchell, coordinates the meetings and travel of the commissioners and coordinates the writing of the report(s) of the Commission.
- o Each Commissioner may select a maximum of two staff.
- o Three additional staff, to be selected by Senator Mitchell, provide clerical, administrative, and secretarial assistance.

Commission: Funding

- o All expenses, including salaries, are met by the Irish and UK governments.

Commission: Location

- o Executive Director establishes headquarters for the Commission in Belfast and spends most of his/her time in Belfast for the lifespan of the Commission.
- o Commissioners are based in home countries, but travel to Belfast (and elsewhere as deemed necessary) for meetings with engaged parties.

Commission: Mode of Operation

- o Commissioners formally meet together with appropriate parties, at least in the first round of deliberations.
- o Individual commissioners could meet separately with relevant parties, but such meetings should be coordinated through the Chairman and Executive Director.

- o Commissioners and/or staff consult with technical experts on the decommissioning of weapons should the commission explore possible decommissioning schemes.
- o Staff provide support as necessary to the Commissioners and carry out projects pertinent to the work of the Commission such as research into analogous situations elsewhere in the world.

Commission: Lifespan

- o As currently understood, the Commission would be expected to produce a report that addresses the depth of commitment to decommissioning of relevant parties and discusses possible modalities of decommissioning.
- o The Commission should have at least two months from its establishment in full complement to complete this task.
- o If as a result of the report or in response to it, the Commission were asked to oversee actual decommissioning, its structure, composition, and possibly location would have to be changed to accommodate a considerably longer life span.

Baldwin, Kenneth

*Put in
Book
Under
decomung*

From: Peters, Mary A. **THE WHITE HOUSE**
To: Soderberg, Nancy E.
Cc: /R, Record at A1 **WASHINGTON**
Subject: Sinn Fein on Decommissioning [UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Wednesday, November 01, 1995 8:01PM

The March 8 statement is the best there was, as far as I can find. The operative words were "2. Demilitarization requires movement on a range of issues including repressive, legislation, prisoners and the decommissioning of weapons.... Sinn Fein representatives will enter into discussion with British Ministers on all the matters outlined in para 2..." We welcomed this statement as a step forward and used it to explain the fundraising decision to the press and Congress. I