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Folder Title:

Ireland-July 1997 Ceasefire

Staff Office-Individual:

Staff Director-Soderberg, Nancy

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put in file
to take w/ me
1997 ceasefire

Kessinger, Jodi

From: Peters, Mary A.
To: Soderberg, Nancy E.
Subject: IRA CEASEFIRE DECLARATION [UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Thursday, July 24, 1997 5:10PM

Jodi, I found it in the cable traffic -- more legible than the fax.

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RUEHBL/AMCONSUL BELFAST 0334
RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE

IRA CEASEFIRE DECLARATION

THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE IRA DECLARATION OF A
RENEWED CEASEFIRE, ISSUED (AND FAXED TO DEPARTMENT AND
NSC) ON SATURDAY, 19 JULY, 1997.

UNCLAS DUBLIN 003677

STATE PASS NSC FOR STEINBERG AND PETERS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PREL, UK, EI
SUBJECT: IRA CEASEFIRE DECLARATION

THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE IRA DECLARATION OF A
RENEWED CEASEFIRE, ISSUED (AND FAXED TO DEPARTMENT AND
NSC) ON SATURDAY, 19 JULY, 1997.

BEGIN TEXT:

ON AUGUST 31, THE LEADERSHIP OF OGLAIGH NA EIREANN
ANNOUNCED A COMPLETE CESSATION OF MILITARY OPERATIONS AS
OUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE SEARCH FOR A LASTING PEACE.

AFTER 17 MONTHS OF CESSATION, IN WHICH THE BRITISH
GOVERNMENT AND THE UNIONISTS BLOCKED ANY POSSIBILITY OF
REAL OR INCLUSIVE NEGOTIATIONS, WE RELUCTANTLY ABANDONED
THE CESSATION.

THE IRISH REPUBLICAN ARMY IS COMMITTED TO ENDING BRITISH
RULE IN IRELAND. IT IS THE ROOT CAUSE OF DIVISION AND
CONFLICT IN OUR COUNTRY. WE WANT A PERMANENT PEACE AND
THEREFORE WE ARE PREPARED TO ENHANCE THE SEARCH FOR A
DEMOCRATIC PEACE SETTLEMENT THROUGH REAL AND INCLUSIVE
NEGOTIATIONS.

SO, HAVING ASSESSED THE CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION, THE
LEADERSHIP OF OGLAIGH NA EIREANN ARE ANNOUNCING A COMPLETE
CESSATION OF MILITARY OPERATIONS FROM 12 O'CLOCK MIDDAY ON
SUNDAY THE 20TH JULY 1997.
WE HAVE ORDERED THE UNEQUIVOCAL RESTORATION OF THE
CEASEFIRE OF AUGUST 1994.

ALL IRA UNITS HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED ACCORDINGLY.
END TEXT. SMITH

<^SECT>SECTION: 01 OF 01
<^SSN>3677
<^TOR>970721102305 M2856318

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FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

To: Nancy Soderberg Fax No. 202 395-3403

From: Jim Lyons (direct dial 303 628-9546) User No. 208

Re: Ireland Client No. 74099-101

Date: 9/30/97

REMARKS:

Let's discuss at your convenience...

WE ARE TRANSMITTING 5 PAGES (INCLUDING THIS COVER PAGE). IF TRANSMISSION IS NOT COMPLETE, PLEASE CALL (303) 623-9000, EXT. 321.

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*Embassy of the United States of America*

American Embassy,
Dublin, Ireland

September 9, 1997

Mr. James M. Lyons
Attorney at Law
Rothgerber, Appel, Powers & Johnson LLP
One Tabor Center, Suite 3000
1200 Seventeenth St.
Denver, Colorado 80202

Fax (303) 623-9222

Dear Mr. Lyons,

Ambassador Smith, who is currently travelling, has asked me to forward for your informal review the attached draft concept paper regarding a conference on local community revitalization in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

While fully conscious that you have not yet been confirmed in your duties as Special Adviser to the President for Economic Initiatives in Ireland, the Ambassador wanted to make you aware of this proposal as soon as possible. The proposal is being circulated informally for comment and has so far received positive reactions from various Members of Congress, U.S. and Irish officials, and NGO's. The Ambassador has shared the concept paper with Ambassador Lader, whose initial reaction was, I understand, also positive. The Irish government intends to provide comments on the paper later this month. British reactions have not yet been sought, though a copy of the paper has been provided informally to British officials.

Ambassador Smith believes the most propitious venue for the conference would be New York, perhaps using the facilities at NYU's Irish Studies Center or at Columbia, but she would welcome your thoughts on the pro's and con's of the various locations mentioned in the concept paper. She is increasingly convinced that the conference should be held this year, perhaps in late November, in order to maximize its positive potential regarding the political process in Northern Ireland.

The Ambassador looks forward to speaking with you about this matter following her return to Dublin on September 15. Please feel free to contact me in the meantime if there is any further information I could provide.

Sincerely,

Richard Norland
Richard Norland
Political Officer

cc Lindsey 9/16 (fax)

2/5/98

**DRAFT CONCEPT PAPER: CONFERENCE ON LOCAL COMMUNITY
REVITALIZATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND**

Purpose: The conference would constitute a third step in the White House Economic Initiative for Ireland, following the Washington (1995) and Pittsburgh (1996) conferences. Politically, the aim would be to lend high-profile momentum to the Stormont talks and boost cross-community and cross-border understanding and cooperation. Economically, the purpose would be to promote the role of local community development groups, NGO's, para-statal organizations and state agencies in laying the foundations for expanded job creation and economic development in disadvantaged areas (so-called "blackspots") of Northern Ireland and the Republic. There would be a strong "self-help" component to this conference, with a focus less on what the state and the outside world should do and more on what communities can be doing for themselves. This will be particularly relevant should the outlines of a political settlement emerge in the coming year.

Timing and Venue: The conference should take place by early in the new year. The Stormont talks resume in mid-September: if things go well, the Local Community Revitalization Conference could serve as a further source of political momentum; if Stormont is stalled, the conference could be a useful alternative forum to help "jump-start" the process. The preferred venue would be a U.S. location where community development and local revitalization programs have operated successfully. This would enable participants from Northern Ireland and the Republic to compare their programs with American efforts, and to mix with each other in a "neutral" setting. Suggested sites include Atlanta (where the Central Atlanta Project has worked well), Chicago, Detroit or New York. Alternatively, the conference could be held in the border region (e.g., the Slieve Russell Hotel in Co. Cavan) if it was determined that a U.S. venue is too expensive or that the U.S. experience is, as some feel, of limited comparative value. (Private funding could be located to defray U.S. airfares.)

Participants: Urban and rural community development organizations and NGO's from Northern Ireland and the Republic should form the bulk of the participants in the conference -- along with appropriate American counterparts. Additional participants would include trade unions, semi-state organizations that promote trade and investment (e.g., the Republic's Industrial Development Agency and Northern Ireland's Industrial Development Board), state employment and job training agencies -- and, again, their American counterparts (e.g., the Small Business Administration). The International Fund for Ireland and the EU's Peace and Reconciliation Fund should also be represented. Although this conference would not be specifically focussed on generating trade and investment, the Commerce Department, along with the business community -- and, in particular, "multipliers" such as private trade groups and industrial organizations-- should play a

supportive role. The White House (the President's Special Adviser on Economic Initiatives in Ireland) could give a U.S. agency such as the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Labor, Agency for International Development or the Small Business Administration the mandate to coordinate the conference, with support from the U.S. Information Agency and, perhaps, an outside university or NGO (along the lines of the recent White House volunteerism conference).

Structure: The conference would be organized to maximize opportunities for comparing experiences in Northern Ireland, the Republic and the U.S. in the field of urban and rural community revitalization and the local community's role in job creation. Community groups operating at the grassroots have some of the best insights to offer into ways of bridging sectarian divisions. Particular emphasis would be placed on addressing the relationship between ethnic strife and economic development and how success in each sphere depends on progress in the other. The conference could feature workshops on topics such as job training and education; the role of local government and state agencies in promoting urban and rural revitalization; bridging ethnic and sectarian divisions in economically depressed areas; and what communities can do for themselves to generate economic growth. Presentations by American NGO's or local government spokespersons (e.g., a mayor) could kick off discussion in these workshops.

Outcomes: Particularly if the conference is held in the U.S., raising the cost to NGO participants, it will be vital to demonstrate that meaningful outcomes have been generated. While concrete, tangible results from a conference of this nature are harder to achieve than at a trade and investment conference where prospective deals can be counted, this does not diminish from the impact that this conference could potentially have. Expanded contact between local communities, state agencies responsible for economic development, and the business sector will be key to laying the foundation for successful investment needed to end the cycle of poverty that has contributed to the conflict. Generating a renewed sense of "self-help" in local communities is a vital element of preparing the groundwork for an eventual political settlement. Better links between local communities looking for a way forward and those in government and business who have a vested interest in facilitating this could emerge from this conference, augmented by a significant trans-Atlantic dimension that would further reaffirm U.S. ties to Ireland.

September 8, 1997

Concept Paper

Conference on Local Community Revitalization in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland

Issues to be decided:

- o Timing -- White House has suggested January, but peace process dynamics may argue for late November
- o Venue -- U.S. or Ireland
- o Participants -- how to decide who participates
- o Structure -- specific topics for workshops
- o Outcomes -- specific conference goals, including follow-up

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SODERBERG STEINBERG

SIT: BANDLER BUTLER MCELDFOWNEY SUM2

SIT: NSC

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NSC FOR STEINBERG/BUTLER
LONDON FOR POL/HALL

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, UK, EI

SUBJECT: ADAMS APPEALS FOR UNIONISTS TO PARTICIPATE
IN TALKS

1. SUMMARY: SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE IN WEST
BELFAST SEPTEMBER 12, SINN FEIN'S PRESIDENT, GERRY
ADAMS CALLED ON UNIONISTS TO JOIN IN MULTI-PARTY
TALKS WITH SINN FEIN. HERE FOLLOWS TEXT OF PRESS
RELEASE. END SUMMARY.

2. BEGIN QUOTE:

"I BELIEVE THAT THE VAST MAJORITY OF
PEOPLE ON THIS ISLAND SEE THE PROCESS AS AN
OPPORTUNITY TO PUT CONFLICT BEHIND US. THE
UNIONISTS SHOULD PLAY A FULL AND ENTHUSIASTIC PART
IN THIS."

3. ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE TIMING OF YESTERDAY'S
IRA INTERVIEW WAS 'UNFORTUNATE' MR. ADAMS SAID: "I
FIND IT DEEPLY OFFENSIVE THAT IRA WORDS CAN CREATE
A POLITICAL STORM MUCH GREATER THAN IS CAUSED BY
THE KILLINGS OF CATHOLICS BY LOYALISTS; BY THE
PLACING OF LOYALIST BOMBS; BY THE FIRING OF
THOUSANDS OF PLASTIC BULLETS BY THE BRITISH ARMY
AND RUC; BY THE RAIDING OF HOMES BY THESE FORCES
AND BY THE BUILDING OF MILITARY FORTIFICATIONS. IT IS
THE HEIGHT OF HYPOCRISY THAT THERE IS MORE OF A
ROW OVER THE WORDS OF THE IRA THAN OCCURS AS A
RESULT OF THE VIOLENCE OF THE LOYALISTS, THE BRITISH

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PAGE 02 OF 02

ARMY AND RUC. LET ME MAKE MY POSITION ABSOLUTELY CLEAR. ON TUESDAY ON BEHALF OF SINN FEIN I AFFIRMED OUR COMMITMENT TO THE MITCHELL PRINCIPLES. I WAS PLEASED TO DO SO. WE WILL HONOR THIS COMMITMENT.

4. THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN RELATION TO THE IRA IS THAT THEY HAVE CALLED, AND ADHERED TO A COMPLETE CESSATION, A FACT ACKNOWLEDGED IN THE LAST 24 HOURS BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S MILITARY ADVISERS. NEXT MONDAY ALL OF THOSE IN POLITICAL LEADERSHIP CAN PLAY A PART IN TURNING THIS OPPORTUNITY FOR PEACE INTO A REALITY. I APPEAL, PARTICULARLY TO THE LEADERSHIP OF UNIONISM, TO PLAY THEIR PART IN PUTTING THIS CONFLICT BEHIND US."

END QUOTE.

STEPHENS

<^SECT>SECTION: 01 OF 01

<^SSN>0327

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