

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. manifest	re: Aircraft Manifests (13 pages)	12/11/2000	b(7)(C), b(7)(E), b(7)(F), b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Lissa Muscatine
OA/Box Number: 21396

FOLDER TITLE:

Trip to U.K. 12/00

2015-0275-S

rc1929

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.

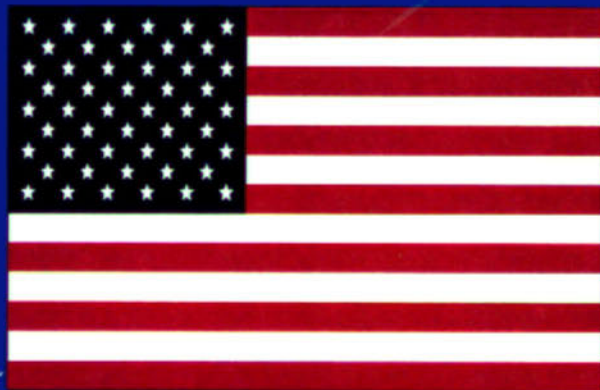
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

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]

*The Trip
of the
President
to*



*Ireland
and the*



United Kingdom

December 11-14, 2000



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Ireland
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United Kingdom*

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SITE DESCRIPTION/SCENESETTER - STORMONT

The Stormont Parliament Building is an imposing neoclassical structure situated high on a long, rising slope in east Belfast. Completed in 1932, it served as the home of the former Northern Ireland Parliament until that body was dissolved in 1972. The building was home to three short-lived attempts at devolved government in 1973, 1975 and 1982. Otherwise, the building was used by the local Civil Service until 1998, when it was selected as the home of the new Northern Ireland Assembly under the terms of the Good Friday Agreement.

The choice of Stormont for the Assembly was controversial, since nationalists and republicans associate Stormont with the legacy of the unionist-dominated parliament that largely excluded Catholics from power. The Northern Ireland Secretary between 1997-99, Mo Mowlam, worked hard to turn the building into "the people's Stormont" by sponsoring art exhibits, tours and even a concert by Elton John. This reincarnation has been partially successful, but potent and potentially divisive symbols - such as statutes of Lord Carson and Lord Craigavon, two of the prime advocates of the Ulster Unionist cause - remain in prominent locations in the building and on the grounds.

The Stormont estate is 400 acres and includes several government buildings, including Stormont Castle (currently under renovation) and Castle Buildings, site of the negotiations chaired by Senator Mitchell that resulted in the Good Friday Agreement. It is located on the outskirts of east Belfast in an upper middle-class, largely Protestant residential area.

TBD:

Upon arrival at the main entrance of Stormont, the President will be greeted by First Minister David Trimble and Deputy First Minister Seamus Mallon. Following a brief bilateral meeting, Trimble and Mallon will escort the President to . . .

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This marker identifies the place of a tabbed divider. Given our digitization capabilities, we are sometimes unable to adequately scan such dividers. The title from the original document is indicated below.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Divider Title: _____



Washington, D.C.
(EST)
0

Ireland
United Kingdom
+5

0600	1100
0700	1200
0800	1300
0900	1400
1000	1500
1100	1600
1200	1700
1300	1800
1400	1900
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1600	2100
1700	2200
1800	2300
1900	2400
2000	0100
2100	0200
2200	0300
2300	0400
2400	0500
0100	0600
0200	0700
0300	0800
0400	0900
0500	1000

+1 day



Notes on Gifts and Customs

Gifts

As set forth in 22 CFR Part 3, the Foreign Gifts Act specifies that employees and members of their families may accept and retain a gift tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy from foreign governments or their representatives if it is of "minimal value," which is currently defined as a retail value in the United States, at the time of acceptance, of \$225 or less. However, an employee may accept a gift valued at over \$225 only if to refuse it "would likely cause offense or embarrassment or otherwise adversely affect the foreign relations of the United States," and even then such a gift is deemed to have been accepted on behalf of the United States and, upon acceptance, becomes the property of the United States. Any such gift must, within 60 days after acceptance, either be deposited for disposal with the recipient's employing agency, or, subject to the approval of the employing agency, deposited with that agency for official use. For the President and First Lady of the United States, the depository for gifts is the White House Gift Unit, 457 Old Executive Office Building.

The Attorney General may bring a civil action in the U.S. District Court against any employee who knowingly has solicited or accepted a gift from a foreign government not consented to by the revised statute, or who has failed to deposit or report such a gift as the law requires. A penalty may be assessed in such a case in any amount not to exceed the retail value of the gift improperly solicited or received plus \$5,000.

Customs

Everyone will be expected to fill out a customs declaration form to be returned to the steward just prior to returning to a U.S. point of entry. You will need to note on the declaration when:

- The total fair retail value of articles acquired abroad exceeds \$400, or if acquired in American Samoa, Guam, or the U.S. Virgin Islands, \$800.
- More than 1 liter (33.8 fl. oz.) of alcoholic beverages, 200 cigarettes, or more than 100 cigars are included. Or if returning from American Samoa, Guam, or the U.S. Virgin Islands: more than 4 liters (135.2 fl. oz.) of alcoholic beverages, 100 cigars, and 1,000 cigarettes.
- Some of the items are not intended for your personal or household use, such as commercial samples, items for sale or use in your business, or articles you are bringing home for another person.
- Articles acquired in the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, or Guam are being sent to the United States.
- A customs duty or internal revenue tax is collectible on any article in your possession.

Note: "Courtesy of Port" does not mean you do not have to fill out a declaration or that you will not have to pay customs duty. Your declarations will

be reviewed by customs officials at the U.S. point of entry and you will be billed for any dutiable items purchased.

Prohibited and Restricted Articles

Some items must meet certain requirements, require a license or permit, or may be prohibited entry. Among these are:

- Absinthe
- Biological material
- Books protected by American copyright if unauthorized foreign reprints
- Candy, liquor-filled
- Copies of gold coins if not properly marked
- Electronic products subject to radiation emission standards
- Firearms and ammunition
- Food, drugs, and certain other items not approved by FDA
- Fruits, plants, vegetables and their products
- Hazardous articles (e.g., fireworks, dangerous toys, toxic or poisonous substances)
- Lottery tickets
- Meats, poultry, and products (e.g., sausage, pate, canned items)
- Motor vehicles not conforming to safety and emission standards
- Narcotics and dangerous drugs including medicine containing same
- Objects of Central and South American pre-Colombian Indian cultures
- Obscene articles and publications
- Pets (e.g., dogs, birds, turtles, monkeys)
- Seditious or treasonable matter
- Trademarked items (e.g., certain cameras, watches, perfumes)
- Switchblade knives
- Wildlife (birds, fish, animals) and endangered and protected species (e.g., pheasants; fur skin; feathers, eggs, or skins of wild birds; articles from reptile skins, ivory, and whalebone).

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IRELAND

Divider Title: _____





CURRENCY

CONVERSION

Irish Punt at 0.87 = U.S. \$

Punt to U.S. Dollars

Punt	U.S. \$
0.50	0.73
1.00	1.13
1.50	1.69
2.00	2.26
0.69	1.00

U.S. Dollars to Punt

U.S. \$	Punt
0.10	0.09
0.25	0.22
0.50	0.44
0.75	0.66
1.00	0.89

10.00	11.29	3.00	2.66
20.00	22.57	5.00	4.43
50.00	56.43	10.00	8.86
300.00	338.60	20.00	17.72
500.00	564.33	50.00	44.30
1,000.00	1,128.67	100.00	88.60
2,000.00	2,257.34	300.00	265.80
5,000.00	5,643.34	500.00	443.00

NOTE: All U.S. dollar values are rounded to the nearest U.S. cent. The value of the Irish Punt fluctuates daily according to currency market conditions.

December 2000



U.S. Department of State
Bureau of Consular Affairs
Washington, DC 20520

For recorded travel information, call 202-647-5225

Internet Address: <http://travel.state.gov>

For information by fax, call 202-647-3000 from your fax machine



Consular Information Sheet

IRELAND

November 8, 2000

COUNTRY DESCRIPTION: Ireland is a highly developed democracy with a modern economy.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: A passport is necessary, but a visa is not required for tourist or business stays of up to three months. For information concerning entry requirements for Ireland, travelers can contact the Embassy of Ireland at 2234 Massachusetts Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008; tel. (202) 462-3939, fax: 202-232-5993, or the nearest Irish consulate in Boston, Chicago, New York, or San Francisco. The Internet address of the Irish Embassy is: www.irelandemb.org.

SAFETY AND SECURITY: A peace agreement for Northern Ireland was ratified by voters in Ireland and Northern Ireland in May 1998. While the cease-fire that came into effect at that time is officially holding, there have been periodic incidents of violence associated with paramilitary organizations. Incidents of violence have been widespread in Northern Ireland, with at least the potential for some spill-over into Ireland. Travelers to Northern Ireland should consult the Consular Information Sheet for the United Kingdom.

CRIME INFORMATION: Although Ireland has a low rate of violent crime, incidents in which non-nationals and tourists have been victims of assault have increased. The numbers of racially-motivated attacks in particular have risen in the past year. There is a high incidence of petty crime, mostly theft, burglary, and purse snatching. Rental cars and tourists, particularly in the vicinity of tourist attractions, are targeted by thieves. The loss or theft abroad of a U.S. passport should be reported immediately to local police and the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate. U.S. citizens can refer to the Department of State's pamphlet, "A Safe Trip Abroad," for ways to promote a trouble-free trip. The pamphlet is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, via the Internet at http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs, or via the Bureau of Consular Affairs home page at <http://travel.state.gov>.

MEDICAL FACILITIES AND INSURANCE: Modern medical facilities and highly skilled medical practitioners are available. U.S. medical insurance is not always valid outside the United States. U.S. Medicare and Medicaid programs do not provide payment for medical services outside the United States. Doctors and hospitals often expect immediate cash payment for health services. Uninsured travelers who require medical care overseas may face extreme difficulties. Travelers have found that supplemental medical insurance with specific overseas coverage, including air evacuation, has proved useful.

Please check with your own insurance company to confirm whether your policy applies overseas, including provision for medical evacuation, and for adequacy of coverage. Serious medical problems requiring hospitalization and/or medical evacuation to the United States can cost tens of thousands of dollars. Please ascertain whether payment will be made to the overseas hospital or doctor or whether you will be reimbursed later for expenses that you incur. Some insurance policies also include coverage for psychiatric treatment and for disposition of remains in the event of death.

Useful information on medical emergencies abroad, including overseas insurance programs, is provided in the Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs brochure, "Medical Information for Americans Traveling Abroad," available via the Bureau of Consular Affairs home page or autofax: (202) 647-3000.

OTHER HEALTH INFORMATION: Information on vaccinations and other health precautions may be obtained from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's hotline for international travelers at tel. 1-877-FYI-TRIP (1-877-394-8747); fax 1-800-CDC-FAXX(1-800-232-3299), or via CDC's Internet site at <http://www.cdc.gov>.

TRAFFIC SAFETY AND ROAD CONDITIONS: While in a foreign country, U.S. citizens may encounter road conditions that differ significantly from those in the United States. The information below concerning Ireland is provided for general reference only, and may not be totally accurate in a particular location or circumstance.

Safety of Public Transportation:	Good
Urban Road Conditions/Maintenance:	Good
Rural Road Conditions/Maintenance:	Fair
Availability of Roadside Assistance:	Good

As driving is on the left side of the road in Ireland, motorists without experience in left-drive countries should be extra cautious. Tourists driving on the wrong side of the road are the cause of several serious accidents each year. Road conditions are generally very good, but once off main highways, country roads quickly become narrow and uneven. Roads are more dangerous during the summer and on holiday weekends due to an increase in traffic.

Taxis are reasonably priced, but availability varies with time of day. Bus service in cities is generally adequate, though many buses are overcrowded and frequently late. Inter-city bus and train services are reasonably good.

For additional general information about road safety, including links to foreign government sites, please see the Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs home page at: http://travel.state.gov/road_safety.html. For specific information concerning Irish driving permits, vehicle inspection, road tax and mandatory insurance, please contact the Irish National Tourist Organization (Bord Failte) web site at <http://www.ireland.travel.ie>.

AVIATION SAFETY OVERSIGHT: The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has assessed the Government of Ireland's Civil Aviation Authority as Category 1 -- in compliance with international aviation safety standards for oversight of Ireland's air carrier operations. For further information, travelers may contact the Department of Transportation within the U.S. at tel. 1-800-322-7873, or visit the FAA's web site at: <http://www.faa.gov/avr/iasa/iasa.pdf>. The U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) separately assesses some foreign air carriers for suitability as official providers of air services. For information regarding the DOD policy on specific carriers, travelers may contact DOD at tel. (618) 229-4801.

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS: Irish Customs authorities may enforce strict regulations concerning temporary importation into or export from Ireland of items such as firearms. It is advisable to contact the Embassy of Ireland in Washington or one of Ireland's consulates in the United States for specific information regarding customs requirements. Customs authorities encourage the use of an ATA (Admission Temporaire/Temporary Admission) Carnet for the admission of professional equipment, commercial samples, and/or goods for exhibitions and fair purposes. ATA Carnet Headquarters, located at the U.S. Council for International Business, 1212 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036, issues and guarantees the ATA Carnet in the United States. For additional information, please call 212-354-4480, or send an e-mail to atacarnet@uscib.org, or visit www.uscib.org for details.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES: While in a foreign country, a U.S. citizen is subject to that country's laws and regulations, which sometimes differ significantly from those in the United States and may not afford the protection available to the individual under U.S. law. Penalties for breaking the law can be more severe than in the United States for similar offenses. Persons violating Irish laws, even unknowingly, may be expelled, arrested or imprisoned. Penalties for possession, use, or trafficking in illegal drugs in Ireland are strict, and convicted offenders can expect jail sentences and heavy fines.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES: Most Irish banks will not accept U.S. \$100 bills. Automated Teller Machines are widely available, but some ATM's, particularly in rural areas, may not accept U.S. bank ATM cards. Credit cards are widely accepted throughout Ireland.

CHILDREN'S ISSUES: For information on international adoption of children and international parental child abduction, please refer to our Internet site at: http://travel.state.gov/children's_issues.html, or telephone (202) 786-7000.

REGISTRATION/EMBASSY LOCATION: Americans living in or visiting Ireland are encouraged to register with the Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy and obtain updated information on travel and security in Ireland. The U.S. Embassy in Dublin is located at 42 Elgin Road, Ballsbridge, tel. (353)(1)668-7122; after hours tel. (353)(1)668-9612/9464; fax: (353)(1) 668-9946. Travelers to Northern Ireland may consult the Consular Information Sheet for the United Kingdom. Further information and answers to many frequently asked questions are available on the U.S. Embassy's Internet home page at <http://www.usembassy.ie/>.

* * *

This replaces the Consular Information Sheet dated September 14, 1999 to update information on Safety and Security, Crime and Internet references.



U.S. Department of State, July 2000
Bureau of European Affairs

Background Notes: Ireland

People

Official Name:
Ireland

U.S. Relations

PROFILE

Economy

Geography

Area: 70,282 sq. km. (27,136 sq. mi.); slightly larger than West Virginia.

Cities: *Capital*--Dublin (pop.1,058,264--somewhat less than one-third the total population). *Other cities*--Cork (127,187), Galway (57,241), Limerick (52,039), Waterford, (42,540).

Terrain: Arable 10%, meadows and pastures 77%, rough grazing in use 11%, inland water 2%.

Climate: Temperate maritime.

Government and
Political Conditions

Travel/Business

People

Geographic
Learning Site

Nationality: *Noun*--Irishman, Irishwoman. *Adjective*--Irish.

Population: 3.7 million.

Ethnic groups: Irish, with English minority.

Religions: Roman Catholic 91.6%; Church of Ireland 2.3%; other 6.1%. Languages: English, Irish (Gaelic).

Education: Compulsory up to age 16. *Enrollment rates*--5-14 year olds--100%; 15 year olds, 96%; 16 year olds, 92%. *Literacy*--98%-99%. Health: *Infant mortality rate*--5.5/1,000. *Life expectancy at birth*--male 73.0 yrs., female 78.7 yrs.

Work force: *Services*--56%; *industry*--29%; *agriculture*--10%; *government*--5%.

Home Page

Government

Type: Parliamentary republic.

Independence: 1921.

Constitution: December 29, 1937.

Branches: *Executive*--president, chief of state; prime minister (Taoiseach--pronounced "TEE-shock"), head of government.

Legislative--bicameral National Parliament (Oireachtas--pronounced "o-ROCK-tas"): House of Representatives (Dail--pronounced "DOIL") and Senate (Seanad--pronounced "SHAN-ad"). *Judicial*--Supreme Court.

Administrative subdivisions: 26 counties, 34 local authorities.

Major political parties: Fianna Fail, Fine Gael, Labor, Progressive Democrats, Green Party, Sinn Fein.

Suffrage: Universal over 18.

Economy

GNP at market prices (2000): \$81.97 billion (estimate).

Annual growth rate (2000): 7.0% (estimate).

Per capita income: \$21,887 (estimate).

Natural resources: Zinc, lead, natural gas, barite, copper, gypsum, limestone, dolomite, peat.

Agriculture (8% of GNP): *Products*--cattle, meat, and dairy products; potatoes; barley; sugarbeets; hay; silage; wheat.

Industry (43% of GNP): *Types*--food processing, beverages, engineering, computer equipment, textiles and clothing, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, construction.

Trade (1999): *Exports*--\$70.2 billion (excluding services): computer equipment, chemicals, meat, dairy products, machinery. *Major markets*--U.K. 22%, other EU countries 43%, U.S. 15.2%.

Imports--\$46.3 billion (excluding services): grains, petroleum products, machinery, transport equipment, chemicals, textile yarns.

Major suppliers--U.K. 32%, other EU countries 22%, U.S. 15.8%.

PEOPLE AND HISTORY

The Irish people are mainly of Celtic origin, with the country's only significant sized minority having descended from the Anglo-Normans. English is the common language, but Irish (Gaelic) also is an official language and is taught in the schools.

A national literature in Irish is reemerging. Anglo-Irish writers, including Swift, Sheridan, Goldsmith, Burke, Wilde, Joyce, Yeats, Shaw, and Beckett, have made a major contribution to world literature over the past 300 years.

What little is known of pre-Christian Ireland comes from a few references in Roman writings, Irish poetry and myth, and archaeology. The earliest inhabitants--people of a mid-Stone Age culture--arrived about 6000 BC, when the climate had become hospitable following the retreat of the polar icecaps. About 4,000 years later, tribes from southern Europe arrived and established a high Neolithic culture, leaving behind gold ornaments and huge stone monuments for archaeologists. This culture apparently prospered, and the island became more densely populated. The Bronze Age people, who arrived during the next 1,000 years, produced elaborate gold and bronze ornaments and weapons.

The Iron Age arrived abruptly in the fourth century BC with the invasion of the Celts, a tall, energetic people who had spread across Europe and Great Britain in the preceding centuries. The Celts, or Gaels, and their more numerous predecessors divided into five kingdoms in which, despite constant strife, a rich culture flourished. This pagan society was dominated by druids--priests who served as educators, physicians, poets, diviners, and keepers of the laws and histories.

But the coming of Christianity from across the Irish Sea brought major changes and civilizing influences. Tradition maintains that in 432 AD, St. Patrick arrived on the island and, in the years that followed, worked to convert the Irish to Christianity. Probably a Celt himself, St. Patrick preserved the tribal and social patterns of the Irish, codifying their laws and changing only those that conflicted with Christian practices. He also introduced the Roman alphabet, which enabled Irish monks to preserve parts of the extensive Celtic oral literature.

The pagan druid tradition collapsed in the face of the spread of the new faith, and Irish scholars excelled in the study of Latin learning and Christian theology in the monasteries that shortly flourished. Missionaries from Ireland to England and the continent spread news of the flowering of learning, and scholars from other nations came to Irish monasteries. The excellence and isolation of these monasteries helped preserve Latin learning during the Dark Ages. The arts of manuscript illumination, metalworking, and sculpture flourished and produced such treasures as the Book of Kells, ornate jewelry, and the many carved stone crosses that dot the island.

This golden age of culture was interrupted by 200 years of intermittent

warfare with waves of Viking raiders who plundered monasteries and towns. The Vikings established Dublin and other seacoast towns but were eventually defeated. Although the Irish were subsequently free from foreign invasion for 150 years, internecine clan warfare continued to drain their energies and resources.

In the 12th century, Pope Adrian IV granted overlordship of the island to Henry II of England, who began an epic struggle between the Irish and the English which not only burned intermittently for 800 years but which continues to affect Irish politics and bilateral relations to this day. The Reformation exacerbated the oppression of the Roman Catholic Irish, and, in the early 17th century, Scottish and English Protestants were sent as colonists to the north of Ireland and the Pale around Dublin.

From 1800 to 1921, Ireland was an integral part of the United Kingdom. Religious freedom was restored in 1829. But this victory for the Irish Catholic majority was overshadowed by severe economic depression and mass famine from 1846-48 when the potato crop failed. The famine spawned the first mass wave of Irish emigration to the United States. A decade later, in 1858, the Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB--also known as the Fenians) was founded as a secret society dedicated to armed rebellion against the British. An above-ground political counterpart, the Home Rule Movement, was created in 1874, advocating constitutional change for independence. Galvanized by the leadership of Charles Stewart Parnell, the party was able to force British governments after 1885 to introduce several home rule bills. The turn of the century witnessed a surge of interest in Irish nationalism, including the founding of Sinn Fein ("Ourselves Alone") as an open political movement.

Nationalism was and is a potent populist force in Irish politics. The outbreak of war in Europe in 1914 put home rule efforts on hold, and, in reaction, Padraic Pearse and James Connolly led the unsuccessful Easter Rising of 1916. The decision by the British-imposed court structure to execute the leaders of the rebellion, coupled with the British Government's threat of conscription, alienated public opinion and produced massive support for Sinn Fein in the 1918 general election. Under the leadership of Eamon de Valera, the elected Sinn Fein deputies constituted themselves as the first Dail. Tensions only increased: British attempts to smash Sinn Fein ignited the Anglo-Irish War of 1919-1921.

The end of the war brought the Anglo-Irish treaty of 1921, which established the Irish Free State of 26 counties within the British Commonwealth and recognized the partition of the island into Ireland and Northern Ireland, though supposedly as a temporary measure. The six predominantly Protestant counties of northeast Ulster--Northern Ireland--remained a part of the United Kingdom with limited self-government. A significant Irish minority repudiated the treaty settlement because of the continuance of subordinate ties to the British monarch and the partition of the island. This opposition led to further hostilities--a civil war (1922-23), which was won by the pro-treaty forces.

In 1932, Eamon de Valera, the political leader of the forces initially opposed to the treaty, became prime minister, and a new Irish constitution was enacted in 1937. The last British military bases were soon withdrawn, and the ports were returned to Irish control. Ireland was neutral in World War II. The government formally declared Ireland a republic in 1948; however, it does not normally use the term "Republic of Ireland," which tacitly acknowledges the partition but refers to the country simply as "Ireland."

U.S.-IRISH RELATIONS

U.S. relations with Ireland have long been based on common ancestral ties and on similar values and political views. These relations, however, have now broadened and matured, given the substantial U.S. corporate involvement in the Irish economy. The United States seeks to maintain and strengthen the traditionally cordial relations between the people of the United States and Ireland.

Economic and trade relations are an important element of the bilateral relationship. U.S. investment has been a major factor in the growth of the Irish economy, and Irish membership in the European Union (EU) means that discussion of EU trade and economic policies, as well as other aspects of EU policy, are a key element in exchanges between the two countries.

Emigration, long a vital element in the U.S.-Irish relationship, has declined significantly with Ireland's economic boom in the 1990s. For the first time in its modern history, immigration to Ireland, especially of non-Europeans, is a growing phenomenon with political, economic, and social consequences. However, Irish citizens do continue the common practice of taking temporary residence overseas for work or

study, mainly in the U.S., U.K., and elsewhere in Europe, before returning to establish careers in Ireland.

Principal U.S. Officials

Ambassador--Michael Sullivan
Deputy Chief of Mission--Earle St. Aubin Scarlett
Administrative Officer--Mark Perry
Commercial Attache--William Crawford
Consular Officer--Leigh Carter
Defense Attache--Col. Jeffrey Donald, USA
Economic Officer--Richard Mills
Political Officer--Edwin Nolan
Public Affairs Officer--Barbara Scarlett

The U.S. embassy in Ireland is located at 42 Elgin Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4 (tel. 668-7122; fax 668-9946).

ECONOMY

In 1999, trade between Ireland and the United States was worth around \$18.5 billion, a 24% increase over 1998. U.S. exports to Ireland were valued at \$7.72 billion, an increase of about 8% over 1998 and 16% of Ireland's total imports. The range of U.S. products includes electrical components, computers and peripherals, drugs and pharmaceuticals, electrical equipment, and livestock feed. Irish exports to the United States grew by almost 32% over 1998 to \$10.8 billion in 1999, representing about 15.5% of all Irish exports. Exports to the United States include alcoholic beverages, chemicals and related products, electronic data processing equipment, electrical machinery, textiles and clothing, and glassware.

In 1999, the recent trend of a U.S. trade deficit with Ireland continued. Overall, the value of U.S. imports from Ireland exceeded the value of U.S. exports to Ireland by \$3.3 billion. Nonetheless, given the continued favorable outlook for the Irish economy, sales opportunities for U.S. producers in Ireland are expected to improve. Export-Import Bank financing and the presence of major U.S. banks in Ireland facilitate marketing by U.S. suppliers.

President Clinton and Irish Government officials have noted the important contribution toward economic and social progress American industrial investment in Ireland--north and south--has made.

President Clinton has pledged to maintain the U.S. commitment to facilitate the growth of such job-creating investment. The International Fund for Ireland, which is funded by the U.S. Congress, has contributed \$5 million annually to Ireland to support cross-border initiatives.

U.S. investment has been particularly important to the growth and modernization of Irish industry over the past 25 years, providing new technology, export capabilities, and employment opportunities. The stock of U.S. investment in Ireland at end-1998 was valued at \$16.1 billion. Currently, there are more than 580 U.S. subsidiaries, employing almost 86,000 people and spanning activities from manufacturing of high-tech electronics, computer products, medical supplies, and pharmaceuticals to retailing, banking and finance, and other services.

Many U.S. businesses find Ireland an attractive location to manufacture for the EU market, since it is inside the EU customs area. Government policies are generally formulated to facilitate trade and inward direct investment. The availability of an educated, well-trained, English-speaking work force and relatively moderate wage costs have been important factors. Ireland offers good long-term growth prospects for U.S. companies under an innovative financial incentive program, including capital grants and favorable tax treatment, such as a low corporation income tax rate for manufacturing firms and certain financial services firms.

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Ireland is a sovereign, independent, democratic state with a parliamentary system of government. The president, who serves as chief of state in a largely ceremonial role, is elected for a 7-year term and can be re-elected only once. In carrying out certain constitutional powers and functions, the president is aided by the Council of State, an advisory body. On the Taoiseach's (prime minister's) advice, the president also dissolves the Oireachtas (Parliament).

The president appoints as prime minister the leader of the political party, or coalition of parties, which wins the most seats in the Dail (house of representatives). Executive power is vested in a cabinet whose ministers are nominated by the Taoiseach and approved by the Dail.

The bicameral Oireachtas (parliament) consists of the Seanad Eireann (senate) and the Dail Eireann (house of representatives). The Seanad is composed of 60 members--11 nominated by the prime minister, 6 elected by the national universities, and 43 elected from panels of candidates established on a vocational basis. The Senate has the power to delay legislative proposals and is allowed 90 days to consider and amend bills sent to it by the Dail, which wields greater power in parliament. The Dail has 166 members popularly elected to a maximum term of 5 years under a complex system of proportional representation.

Judges are appointed by the president on nomination by the government and can be removed from office only for misbehavior or incapacity and then only by resolution of both houses of parliament. The ultimate court of appeal is the Supreme Court, consisting of the Chief Justice and five other justices. The Supreme Court also can decide upon the constitutionality of legislative acts if the president asks for an opinion.

Local government is by elected county councils and--in the cities of Dublin, Cork, Limerick, and Waterford--by county borough corporations. In practice, however, authority remains with the central government.

Irish politics remain dominated by the two political parties that grew out of Ireland's bitter 1922-23 civil war. Fianna Fail was formed by those who opposed the 1921 treaty that partitioned the island. Although treaty opponents lost the civil war, Fianna Fail soon became Ireland's largest political party. Fine Gael, representative of the pro-treaty forces, remains the country's second-largest party.

In recent years, however, there have been signs that this largely two-party structure is evolving. Mary Robinson of the Labour Party shocked the political establishment by winning the 1990 presidential election. Articulating a progressive agenda for Ireland's future and outspoken on social issues, Robinson represented a distinct break from the traditional politics of the two major parties. The November 1992 general election confirmed this trend. The two main parties lost ground as the Labour Party scored an historic breakthrough, winning 19% of the vote and 33 seats in the House. As a result of the election, Labour held the balance of power between the two largest parties and initially chose to go into coalition with Fianna Fail. That government collapsed in November 1994, and Labour again demonstrated its new

role when it dictated the terms of a new "rainbow" government coalition with Fine Gael and the Democratic Left.

The year 1997, however, saw a return to a more traditional model. In the June general election, Labour lost heavily and was reduced to 18 seats in the Dail. Though Fianna Fail did not win an outright majority, it increased its seats to 76 (currently 75) and was able to form a coalition with the much smaller (4 seats) Progressive Democrats. Fine Gael also picked up seats but was unable to form a coalition with the much-reduced Labour party. In the November 1997 presidential election, Fianna Fail candidate Mary McAleese, a lawyer from Northern Ireland, won a record victory over four other candidates.

As a result of the 1997 elections, a minority government led by Taoiseach (prime minister) Bertie Ahern of Fianna Fail took office. Mary Harney, who heads the Progressive Democrats Party, serves as the Tanaiste (deputy prime minister) and Minister for Enterprise, Employment, and Trade. The coalition relies on the support of four independent members to give it a governing majority. In 1999, the Labour Party absorbed the smaller party of the Democratic Left, bringing its total number of seats in the Dail to 21 (currently 20).

Since coming to power, the government of Prime Minister Ahern has presided over a strong economy. Ireland boasts the highest growth rate of any country in the OECD over the last 3 years, low unemployment, and a surplus in the country's finances. However, the "Celtic Tiger's" inflation rate has edged up over the past year. To address this concern, Prime Minister Ahern has pledged action to curb inflation and, thereby, sustain sound economic growth. On the diplomatic front, the government has played a key role in brokering a lasting peace in Northern Ireland, in bolstering Ireland's role in the European Union, and in leading Ireland to join NATO's Partnership for Peace in 1999.

Most recently, allegations of political corruption related to property development schemes, tax avoidance by business and political leaders, as well as other scandals dating back to the late 1980s and early 1990s have surfaced. The Dail has established two tribunals--the Flood Tribunal and the Moriarty Tribunal--to investigate these various scandals, and the work of the two tribunals will likely continue until 2001. Although several senior political leaders and members of parliament have been named in connection with the scandals, the government of Prime Minister Ahern remains stable, and most

observers think it unlikely new general elections will be held before spring 2001.

Northern Ireland

Resolving the Northern Ireland problem remains a leading political issue in Ireland and is a major priority in U.S. relations with Ireland. The U.S. Government is engaged with both the Irish and British Governments on ways that the U.S. can play a constructive role in supporting the peace process in the North.

The conflict in Northern Ireland stems from the division between "Nationalist" and Unionist" segments of the Northern Ireland population: Nationalists in Northern Ireland want unification with Ireland, while Unionists want Northern Ireland to continue its union with Great Britain.

Since the 1985 Anglo-Irish Agreement granting Ireland a formal voice in Northern Ireland affairs, there has been an extensive dialogue between the two governments on how to bring about a peaceful, democratic resolution of the conflict. In December 1993, the "Downing Street Declaration," holding out the promise of inclusive political talks on the future of Northern Ireland, was issued. This led the Irish Republican Army (IRA) to call a "total cessation" of military operations on August 31, 1994. This was followed 6 weeks later by a similar cease-fire by the loyalist paramilitaries.

Following up on the cease-fires, the two governments in February 1995 issued a "frameworks" document, which proposed a basis for negotiations. Generally welcomed by Nationalists, it was rejected by Unionists, who disparaged it as a "blueprint for a united Ireland." Despite the negative Unionist reaction, the two governments tried to launch the negotiating process by announcing that they would hold a series of bilaterals with all the constitutional parties in the north.

The process stalled in 1995 due to disagreements between the British Government and Sinn Fein, the political arm of the IRA, about the decommissioning of IRA weapons. President Clinton's visit to Ireland in December 1995 led to the establishment later the same month of an International Commission, chaired by former U.S. Senator George Mitchell, to recommend a solution to this impasse.

The January 1996 "Mitchell Report" recommended decommissioning

during a talks process and was widely praised. However, the British Government decision to hold elections for a negotiating body was seen as a step backwards, and in February 1996 the IRA officially ended its cease-fire with a bomb attack in London that killed two. At the end of February the two governments announced that all-party talks would begin in June and be open to all parties disavowing violence. In May 1996 the elections were held, with Sinn Fein doing particularly well. However, the party was turned away from the negotiations, chaired by Sen. Mitchell, when they began on June 10 because of the IRA's continued campaign of violence.

Throughout the latter half of 1996 and early 1997 the negotiations made little progress. The May 1997 election of Tony Blair and the Labour Party Government in the U.K., however, re-energized the process and led to increasing pressure on the IRA/Sinn Fein to restore the cease-fire. After gaining assurances that the negotiations process would be time-limited and that decommissioning would not again become a stumbling block, the IRA did restore its cease-fire in July 1997, and Sinn Fein was admitted to the talks process in September 1997. The negotiations moved from process into substance in October 1997. In a final marathon push in April 1998, which included the personal intervention of President Clinton, all parties, on April 10, signed an agreement. The "Good Friday" (April 10 happened to be Good Friday) Agreement was put to a vote, and strong majorities in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland approved it in simultaneous referendums on May 22, 1998.

The agreement provides for a 108-member Northern Ireland elected assembly to be overseen by a 12-minister executive committee in which Unionists and Nationalists would share responsibility for governing. The agreement, which is now being implemented, also will institutionalize the cross-border cooperation with the Republic of Ireland and will create mechanisms to guarantee the rights of all. Members of the 108-seat assembly were elected on June 25. The results of the election confirm that four parties will play a dominant role in the new legislative body: the Ulster Unionist Party (UUP) won 28 seats, and the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) won 20 seats on the Unionist side. On the Nationalist side, the Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP) won 24 seats and Sinn Fein, 18. Assembly members met in "shadow" mode while they prepared the procedures and modalities of the new legislative body, which assumed governing responsibilities in 1999. Following the election, the Northern Ireland Executive was created, headed by First Minister David Trimble

(UUP), and Deputy Minister Seamus Mallon (SDLP) emerged in December 1999.

The issue of decommissioning has proven to be a stumbling block that, for a time, thwarted effective implementation of the Good Friday Agreement. When the UUP threatened to pull out of the powersharing Executive in February 2000 over what the UUP charged was the IRA's failure to disarm in accordance with the commitments made in the Belfast Agreement, the British Government suspended Northern Ireland's local governing body. In so doing, it sought to prevent both sides from renouncing the 1998 Good Friday Agreement altogether. Nevertheless, a substantial majority of Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland continued to support the peace process throughout the 72-day impasse.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair and Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern mediated a series of talks aimed at the restoration of the Northern Ireland Executive, as high-level engagement on the part of Ireland, the United Kingdom, and the United States continued. Finally, on May 6, 2000, the IRA pledged to put its arms completely and verifiably "beyond use" in a groundbreaking statement on decommissioning. David Trimble, as leader of the Ulster Unionist Party (UUP), welcomed the statement and rallied support for his party's return to the Executive. In a divided vote, 459 in favor to 403 against, the UUP decided to resume its involvement. On May 29, 2000, the British Government restored direct rule to Northern Ireland. President Clinton hailed the resumption of Northern Ireland's home rule as an important step toward the "promise of peace."

Although the reestablishment of the Executive has further reinforced popular and political support for the Good Friday Agreement, significant challenges persist. Splinter groups opposed to the peace process have committed terrorist attacks in Northern Ireland and in mainland Britain on several occasions since the Belfast Agreement was signed. The worst of these attacks took place in Omagh, Co. Tyrone in August 1998 when 29 people were killed and hundreds seriously injured. Other divisive issues that have yet to be resolved include carrying out the Patten Commission's recommendations on reform of the Royal Ulster Constabulary (Northern Ireland's police force), as well as the emotive issue of flying British and Irish flags over public buildings on holidays and special occasions.

U.S. Government policy on Northern Ireland condemns all acts of

terrorism and violence, perpetrated by any party on either side. It also cautions all Americans to question closely any appeal for financial or other aid from groups involved in the Northern Ireland conflict to ensure that contributions do not end up in the hands of those who support violence, either directly or indirectly.

Principal Government Officials

President--Mary McAleese
Taoiseach (Prime Minister)--Bertie Ahern
Tanaiste (Deputy Prime Minister) and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment--Mary Harney
Ambassador to the United States--Sean O'hUiginn

The Irish Embassy in the United States is at 2234 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20008 (tel. 202-462-3939/40/41/42). Irish Consulates are located in New York, Chicago, Boston, and San Francisco.

TRAVEL AND BUSINESS INFORMATION

The U.S. Department of State's Consular Information Program provides Consular Information Sheets, Travel Warnings, and Public Announcements. **Consular Information Sheets** exist for all countries and include information on entry requirements, currency regulations, health conditions, areas of instability, crime and security, political disturbances, and the addresses of the U.S. posts in the country. **Travel Warnings** are issued when the State Department recommends that Americans avoid travel to a certain country. **Public Announcements** are issued as a means to disseminate information quickly about terrorist threats and other relatively short-term conditions overseas which pose significant risks to the security of American travelers. Free copies of this information are available by calling the Bureau of Consular Affairs at 202-647-5225 or via the fax-on-demand system: 202-647-3000. Consular Information Sheets and Travel Warnings also are available on the Consular Affairs Internet home page: <http://travel.state.gov>. Consular Affairs Tips for Travelers publication series, which contain information on obtaining passports and planning a safe trip abroad are on the internet and hard copies can be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, telephone: 202-512-1800; fax 202-512-2250.

Emergency information concerning Americans traveling abroad may be obtained from the Office of Overseas Citizens Services at (202) 647-5225. For after-hours emergencies, Sundays and holidays, call 202-647-4000.

Passport information can be obtained by calling the National Passport Information Center's automated system (\$.35 per minute) or live operators 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (EST) Monday-Friday (\$1.05 per minute). The number is 1-900-225-5674 (TDD: 1-900-225-7778). Major credit card users (for a flat rate of \$4.95) may call 1-888-362-8668 (TDD: 1-888-498-3648). It also is available on the internet.

Travelers can check the latest health information with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia. A hotline at 877-FYI-TRIP (877-394-8747) and a web site at <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/index.htm> give the most recent health advisories, immunization recommendations or requirements, and advice on food and drinking water safety for regions and countries. A booklet entitled Health Information for International Travel (HHS publication number CDC-95-8280) is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402, tel. (202) 512-1800.

Information on travel conditions, visa requirements, currency and customs regulations, legal holidays, and other items of interest to travelers also may be obtained before your departure from a country's embassy and/or consulates in the U.S. (for this country, see "Principal Government Officials" listing in this publication).

U.S. citizens who are long-term visitors or traveling in dangerous areas are encouraged to register at the U.S. embassy upon arrival in a country (see "Principal U.S. Embassy Officials" listing in this publication). This may help family members contact you in case of an emergency.

Further Electronic Information

Department of State Foreign Affairs Network. Available on the Internet, DOSFAN provides timely, global access to official U.S. foreign policy information. Updated daily, DOSFAN includes Background Notes; daily press briefings; Country Commercial Guides; directories of key officers of Foreign Service posts; etc. DOSFAN's World Wide Web site is at <http://www.state.gov>.

National Trade Data Bank (NTDB). Operated by the U.S. Department of Commerce, the NTDB contains a wealth of trade-related information. It is available on the Internet (www.stat-usa.gov) and on CD-ROM. Call the NTDB Help-Line at (202) 482-1986 for more information.

[end document]

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This is an official U.S. Government source for information on the WWW.
Inclusion of non-U.S. Government links does not imply endorsement of contents

Michael J. Sullivan
U.S. Ambassador to
Ireland

Michael J. Sullivan was appointed U.S. Ambassador to Ireland in October 1998.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Sullivan was a Partner/attorney with Brown, Drew, Massey, and Sullivan in Casper, Wyoming. From 1996-97, he was employed at the Institute of Politics Fellowship at Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government. He was the Governor of Wyoming from 1987-95; Director of Wyoming National Bank West, 1981-86; Associate attorney (1964-68) and Partner (1968-86) for Brown, Drew, Massey, and Sullivan (and predecessor firm Brown, Drew, Apostolos, Barton, and Massey).

Mr. Sullivan has won a number of prestigious awards for his dedication and performance. The awards include: the Outstanding Graduate; the Phi Kappa Phi Scholastic Honorary; the Iron Skull; the Robert Forrister Youth; the Distinguished Service Medal; and the Outstanding Alumni.

He is a member of various organizational affiliations and is the author of *Fifty Years of Rhetoric on the Range*; and *Memorial Comments for George E. Rudolph and William F. "Bill" Drew*.

Mr. Sullivan was born in Omaha, Nebraska, is married, and has three children.

Key U.S. Officials in Ireland

Deputy Chief of Mission

Earle St. A. Scarlett

Political/Economic Affairs

Edwin R. Nolan

Economic/Commercial Affairs

Richard M. Mills, Jr.

Consular Affairs

Leigh G. Carter

Administrative Affairs

Mark Perry

Regional Security Affairs

James J. Murphy

Public Affairs

Barbara A. Scarlett

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

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**THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

Divider Title: _____







British Sterling at 0.69 = U.S. \$

Sterling to U.S. Dollars

Sterling	U.S. \$
0.50	0.73
1.00	1.45
1.50	2.18
2.00	2.91
0.69	1.00

U.S. Dollars to Sterling

U.S. \$	Sterling
0.10	0.07
0.25	0.17
0.50	0.34
0.75	0.52
1.00	0.69

10.00	14.49	3.00	2.07
20.00	28.99	5.00	3.45
50.00	72.46	10.00	6.90
300.00	434.78	20.00	13.80
500.00	724.64	50.00	34.50
1,000.00	1,449.28	100.00	69.00
2,000.00	2,898.55	300.00	207.00
5,000.00	7,246.38	500.00	345.00

NOTE: All U.S. dollar values are rounded to the nearest U.S. cent. The value of the British Sterling fluctuates daily according to currency market conditions.



U.S. Department of State
Bureau of Consular Affairs
Washington, DC 20520

For recorded travel information, call 202-647-5225

Internet Address: <http://travel.state.gov>

For information by fax, call 202-647-3000 from your fax machine



Consular Information Sheet

UNITED KINGDOM AND GIBRALTAR

December 4, 2000

COUNTRY DESCRIPTION: The United Kingdom is a highly developed constitutional monarchy comprising England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland; Gibraltar is a British Overseas Territory. Tourist facilities are widely available.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: A passport is required. Tourists are not obliged to obtain a visa for stays of up to six months in the United Kingdom or to enter Gibraltar. Those wishing to remain longer than one month in Gibraltar should regularize their stay with Gibraltar immigration authorities.

Further information on entry requirements may be obtained from the British Embassy at 3100 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008; tel: (202) 588-7800. Inquiries may also be directed to British Consulates in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, and San Francisco. The web site of the British Embassy in the United States is <http://www.britainusa.com/embassy>.

SAFETY AND SECURITY: The United Kingdom is stable and modern. Political demonstrations are well policed and, except at times in Northern Ireland, generally orderly. There is, however, a history of terrorist violence related to the political situation in Northern Ireland (a part of the United Kingdom).

Numerous incidents of terrorist violence have occurred throughout England and Northern Ireland. U.S. citizens have not been specifically targeted, but some have been injured when caught up in disturbances. In the last year, a major suburban London bridge was damaged by a bomb, various explosions occurred in high-density London neighborhoods, and an explosive device discovered on a London subway line caused major public transport delays.

In recent years, there has been widespread civil unrest throughout Northern Ireland during the summer marching season (April to August). As a result, American citizens traveling in Northern Ireland have experienced delays and disruption. Some degree of civil unrest may continue for the foreseeable future.

During the fall of 2000, fuel refinery blockades by the transport industry caused fuel shortages that curtailed emergency services, public transport (including airlines) and slowed or halted distribution of food and other vital commodities. Gas pump lines caused major traffic jams throughout the U.K. Further protest and resultant disruptions – even to tourists – cannot be ruled out if there is continued concern about high fuel prices.

CRIME: While the United Kingdom and Gibraltar benefit from generally low crime rates, The U.K. has recently experienced an increase in crime, including crimes involving violence. Incidents of pickpocketing, muggings, "snatch and grab" thefts of watches and jewelry and theft of unattended bags are extremely common. According to U.K. government reports, these have increased significantly over the last year.

Pickpockets target tourists, especially at historic sites, restaurants, on buses, trains and the London Underground (subway). Thieves often target unattended cars parked at tourist sites. In London, travelers should use only licensed "black taxi cabs" or car services recommended by their hotel or tour operator. Unlicensed taxis or private cars posing as taxis may offer low fares, but are often uninsured and may have unlicensed drivers. In some instances, travelers have been robbed while using these cars.

Due to the circumstances described above, visitors should take steps to ensure the safety of their U.S. passports. Visitors in England, Scotland and Wales are not expected to produce identity documents for police authorities and thus may secure their passports in hotel safes or residences. In Northern Ireland, however, passports or other photographic I.D. should be carried at all times. The need to carry a passport to cash Travelers Checks is also minimized by an abundance of ATM's able to access systems widely used in the U.S. and offering more favorable rates of exchange.

The loss or theft of a U.S. passport should be reported immediately to the local police and the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate. U.S. citizens can refer to the Department of State's pamphlet "A Safe Trip Abroad" for ways to promote a more trouble-free journey. The pamphlet is available by mail from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, via the Internet at http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs, or via the Bureau of Consular Affairs home page at <http://travel.state.gov>.

MEDICAL FACILITIES AND INSURANCE: While good medical services are widely available, free care under the National Health System is allowed only to U.K. residents. Tourists and short-term visitors can expect charges roughly comparable to those assessed in the United States.

MEDICAL INSURANCE: U.S. medical insurance is not always valid outside the United States. U.S. Medicare and Medicaid programs do not provide payment for medical services outside the United States. Doctors and hospitals often expect immediate cash payment for medical services. Uninsured travelers who require medical care overseas may face extreme difficulties.

Check with your own insurance company to confirm whether your policy applies overseas, including provisions for medical evacuation, and for adequacy of coverage. Generally, travel insurance cannot be purchased once you have departed the United States. Serious medical problems requiring hospitalization and/or medical evacuation to the United States can cost tens of thousands of dollars. Ascertain whether payment will be made to the overseas hospital or doctor or whether you will be reimbursed later for expenses you incur. Some insurance policies also include coverage for psychiatric treatment and for disposition of remains in the event of death.

Useful information on medical emergencies abroad, including overseas insurance programs, is provided in the Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs brochure "Medical Information for Americans Traveling Abroad," available via the Bureau of Consular Affairs home page or autofax: (202) 647-3000.

OTHER HEALTH INFORMATION: Information on vaccinations and other health precautions may be obtained from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's international traveler's hotline at tel: 1-877-FYI-TRIP (1-877-394-8747); fax: 1-888-CDC-FAXX (1-888-232-3299), or by visiting the CDC Internet home page at <http://www.cdc.gov>.

TRAFFIC SAFETY AND ROAD CONDITIONS: While in a foreign country, U.S. citizens may encounter road conditions that differ significantly from those in the United States. The information below concerning the United Kingdom is provided for general reference only, and may not be totally accurate in a particular location or circumstance.

Safety of Public Transportation:	Excellent
Urban Road Condition/Maintenance:	Excellent
Rural Road Condition/Maintenance:	Excellent
Availability of Roadside Assistance:	Excellent

U.K. penalties for drunk driving are stiff and often result in prison sentences. Visitors uncomfortable with or intimidated by the prospect of driving on the left-hand side of the road may wish to avail themselves of extensive bus, rail and air transport networks that are reasonably inexpensive. Roads in the United Kingdom are generally good, but are narrow and often congested in urban areas. If you plan to drive while in the U.K., you may wish to obtain a copy of The Highway Code, available in the United Kingdom. The Automobile Association (AA) of the U.K. provides information and updates on travel and traffic-related issues on its web site at: <http://www.theaa.co.uk>.

Public transport in the United Kingdom is excellent and extensive. However, poor track conditions were thought to have contributed to train derailments resulting in some fatalities. Repairs are underway and the overall safety record is excellent.

Many U.S. citizens are injured every year in pedestrian accidents in the United Kingdom, forgetting that traffic moves in the opposite direction than in the United States. Care should be taken when crossing streets.

In Gibraltar, as in the U.S. and Continental Europe, driving is on the right-hand side of the road. Persons traveling overland between Gibraltar and Spain may experience long delays in clearing Spanish border controls.

For additional general information about road safety, including links to foreign government sites, see the Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs home page at http://travel.state.gov/road_safety.html. For specific information concerning United Kingdom driving permits, vehicle inspection, road tax and mandatory insurance, refer to the United Kingdom's Department of Environment and Transport web site: www.detr.gov.uk; the Driving Standards Agency web site: www.dsa.gov.uk, or consult the U.S. Embassy in London's web site at www.usembassy.org.uk.

The phone number for police/fire/ambulance emergency services — the equivalent of "911" in the U.S. — is 999 in the United Kingdom and 12 in Gibraltar.

AVIATION SAFETY OVERSIGHT: The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has assessed the Government of the United Kingdom's Civil Aviation Authority as Category One — in compliance with international aviation standards for oversight of the United Kingdom's air carrier operations. For further information, travelers may contact the Department of Transportation within the U.S. at 1-800-322-7873, or visit the FAA Internet home page at <http://www.faa.gov/avr/iasa/iasa.pdf>. The U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) separately assesses some foreign air carriers for suitability as official providers of air services. For information regarding the DOD policy on specific carriers, travelers may contact DOD at telephone 618-229-4801.

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS: British customs authorities may strictly enforce regulations regarding the import or export of certain items, including material deemed likely to incite racial hatred, firearms and

personal defense items such as mace or knives. It is advisable to contact the British Embassy in Washington or one of the United Kingdom's consulates in the U.S. for specific information regarding customs requirements. Customs authorities encourage the use of an ATA (Admission Temporaire/Temporary Admission) Carnet for the temporary admission of professional equipment, commercial samples, and/or goods for exhibitions and fair purposes. ATA Carnet Headquarters, located at the U.S. Council for International Business, 1212 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036, issues and guarantees the ATA Carnet in the United States. For additional information call 212-354-4480, send an e-mail to atacarnet@uscib.org, or visit www.uscib.org for details.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES: While in a foreign country, a U.S. citizen is subject to that country's laws and regulations, which sometimes differ significantly from those in the United States and may not afford the protections available to the individual under U.S. law. Penalties for breaking the law can be more severe than in the United States for similar offenses. Persons violating British law, even unknowingly, may be expelled, arrested or imprisoned. Penalties for possession, use or trafficking in illegal drugs in the United Kingdom are strict, and convicted offenders can expect jail sentences and heavy fines.

Air travelers to and from the United Kingdom should be aware that penalties against alcohol-related and other in-flight crimes ("air rage") are stiff and are being enforced with prison sentences.

CHILDREN'S ISSUES: For information on international adoption of children and international parental child abduction, please refer to our Internet site at: http://travel.state.gov/children's_issues, or telephone (202) 736-7000.

REGISTRATION/EMBASSY AND CONSULATE LOCATIONS: Americans living in or visiting the United Kingdom may register at the Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy in London, or at the U.S. Consulates General in Edinburgh or Belfast and obtain updated information on travel and security within the United Kingdom.

The U.S. Embassy is located at 24 Grosvenor Square, London W1A 1AE; telephone: in country 0207-499-9000, from the U.S. 011-44-207-499-9000 (24 hours); Consular Section fax: in country 0207-495-5012; from the U.S. 011-44-207-495-5012. The embassy web site is: <http://www.usembassy.org.uk>.

The U.S. Consulate General in Edinburgh, Scotland, is located at: 3 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh EH7 5BW; telephone: in country 0131-556-8315, from the U.S. 011-44-131-556-8315. After hours: in country 0131-260-6495, from the U.S. 011-44-131-260-6495. Fax: in country 0131-557-6023; from the U.S. 011-44-131-557-6023. The web site is: <http://www.usembassy.org.uk/scotland>.

The U.S. Consulate General in Belfast, Northern Ireland, is located at: 14 Queen Street, Belfast BT1 6EQ; telephone: in country 01232-328-239; from the U.S. 011-44-1232-328-239. After hours: in country 01232-241-279, from the U.S. 011-44-1232-661-629. Fax: in country 01232-248-482, from the U.S. 011-44-1232-248-482.

There is no U.S. consular representation in Gibraltar. Citizen services questions should be directed to the U.S. Embassy in London. Passport questions can be directed to the U.S. Embassy in Madrid, located at Serrano 75/Madrid, Spain; telephone (34)(91)587-2200, and fax (34)(91)587-2303.

This replaces the Consular Information Sheet dated September 14, 1999, to update the sections on Safety and Security, Crime, Traffic Safety and Road Conditions, Embassy/Consulate telephone numbers, and Internet addresses for a number of U.S. and U.K. governmental entities.



U.S. Department of State, September 2000
Bureau of European Affairs

Background Notes: United Kingdom

Official Name: The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

PROFILE

Geography

Area: 244,820 sq. km. (94,525 sq. mi.); slightly smaller than Oregon.
Cities: *Capital*--London (metropolitan pop. about 7.1 million). *Other cities*--Birmingham, Glasgow, Leeds, Sheffield, Liverpool, Bradford, Manchester, Edinburgh, Bristol, Belfast.

Terrain: 30% arable, 50% meadow and pasture, 12% waste or urban, 7% forested, 1% inland water. *Land use*--25% arable, 46% meadows and pastures, 10% forests and woodland, 19% other.
Climate: Generally mild and temperate; weather is subject to frequent changes but to few extremes of temperature.

People

Nationality: *Noun*--Briton(s). *Adjective*--British.

Population (July 1999 est.): 59.1 million.

Annual population growth rate (1999 est.): 0.24%.

Major ethnic groups: British, Irish, West Indian, South Asian.

Major religions: Church of England (Anglican), Roman Catholic, Church of Scotland (Presbyterian), Muslim.

Major languages: English, Welsh, Irish Gaelic, Scottish Gaelic.

Education: *Years compulsory*--12. *Attendance*--nearly 100%. *Literacy*--99%.

Health: *Infant mortality rate* (1999 est.)--5.78/1,000. *Life expectancy* (1999 est.)--males 75 yrs.; females 80 yrs.

Work force (1999, 28 million): *Services*--75.2%; *manufacturing*--15.6%; *construction*--6.5%; *agriculture and fishing*--1.9%; *energy and water*--0.8%.

People

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Government

Type: Constitutional monarchy.

Constitution: Unwritten; partly statutes, partly common law and practice.

Branches: *Executive*--monarch (head of state), prime minister (head of government), cabinet. *Legislative*--bicameral parliament: House of Commons, House of Lords; Scottish Parliament, Welsh Assembly, and Northern Ireland Assembly. *Judicial*--magistrates' courts, county courts, high courts, appellate courts, House of Lords.

Subdivisions: Municipalities, counties, parliamentary constituencies, province of Northern Ireland, and Scottish regions.

Political parties: In Great Britain: Conservative; Labour; Liberal Democrats; also, in Scotland: Scottish National Party; in Wales: Plaid Cymru (Party of Wales). In Northern Ireland: Ulster Unionist Party, Social Democratic and Labour Party, Democratic Unionist Party, Sinn Féin, Alliance Party and other smaller parties.

Suffrage: British subjects and citizens of other Commonwealth countries and the Irish Republic resident in the U.K., at 18.

Economy

GDP (Nominal GDP, 1999): \$1.4 trillion.

Annual growth rate (1999): 2.1%.

Per capita GDP (1999): \$24,300.

Natural resources: Coal, oil, natural gas, tin, limestone, iron ore, salt, clay, chalk, gypsum, lead, silica.

Agriculture (1.8% of GDP): *Products*--cereals, oilseed, potatoes, vegetables, cattle, sheep, poultry, fish.

Industry (31.5% of GDP): *Types*--steel, heavy engineering and metal manufacturing, textiles, motor vehicles and aircraft, construction, electronics, chemicals.

Trade (1999): *Exports*--\$267.6 billion: manufactured goods, fuels, chemicals; food, beverages, tobacco. *Major markets*--U.S., Germany, France, the Netherlands, Ireland. *Imports*--\$311 billion: manufactured goods, machinery, fuels, foodstuffs. *Major suppliers*--Germany, U.S., France, the Netherlands, Japan.

PEOPLE

In 1999, the United Kingdom's population was estimated at over 59 million--the third-largest in Europe and the 18th-largest in the world. Its overall population density is one of the highest in the world. Almost

one-third of the population lives in England's prosperous and fertile southeast and is predominantly urban and suburban, with approximately 7.1 million in the capital of London. The U.K.'s high literacy rate (99%) is attributable to universal public education introduced for the primary level in 1870 and secondary level in 1900. Education is mandatory from ages 5 through 16. About one-fifth of British students goes on to post-secondary education. The Church of England and the Church of Scotland are the official churches in their respective parts of the country, but most religions found in the world are represented in the U.K..

A group of islands close to continental Europe, the British Isles have been subject to many invasions and migrations, especially from Scandinavia and the continent, including Roman occupation for several centuries. Contemporary Britons are descended mainly from the varied ethnic stocks that settled there before the 11th century. The pre-Celtic, Celtic, Roman, Anglo-Saxon, and Norse influences were blended in Britain under the Normans, Scandinavian Vikings who had lived in Northern France. Although Celtic languages persist in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, the predominant language is English, which is primarily a blend of Anglo-Saxon and Norman French.

HISTORY

The Roman invasion of Britain in 55 BC and most of Britain's subsequent incorporation into the Roman Empire stimulated development and brought more active contacts with the rest of Europe. As Rome's strength declined, the country again was exposed to invasion, including the pivotal incursions of the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes in the fifth and sixth centuries AD up to the Norman conquest in 1066. Norman rule effectively ensured Britain's safety from further intrusions; certain institutions, which remain characteristic of Britain, could develop. Among these are a political, administrative, cultural, and economic center in London; a separate but established church; a system of common law; distinctive and distinguished university education; and representative government.

Union

Both Wales and Scotland were independent kingdoms that resisted English rule. The English conquest of Wales succeeded in 1282 under Edward I, and the Statute of Rhuddlan established English rule 2 years later. To appease the Welsh, Edward's son (later Edward II), who

had been born in Wales, was made Prince of Wales in 1301. The tradition of bestowing this title on the eldest son of the British Monarch continues today. An act of 1536 completed the political and administrative union of England and Wales.

While maintaining separate parliaments, England and Scotland were ruled under one crown beginning in 1603, when James VI of Scotland succeeded his cousin Elizabeth I as James I of England. In the ensuing 100 years, strong religious and political differences divided the kingdoms. Finally, in 1707, England and Scotland were unified as Great Britain, sharing a single parliament at Westminster.

Ireland's invasion by the Anglo-Normans in 1170 led to centuries of strife. Successive English kings sought to conquer Ireland. In the early 17th century, largescale settlement of the north from Scotland and England began. After its defeat, Ireland was subjected, with varying degrees of success, to control and regulation by Britain.

The legislative union of Great Britain and Ireland was completed on January 1, 1801, under the name of the United Kingdom. However, armed struggle for independence continued sporadically into the 20th century. The Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921 established the Irish Free State, which subsequently left the Commonwealth and became a republic after World War II. Six northern, predominantly Protestant, Irish counties have remained part of the United Kingdom.

British Expansion and Empire

Begun initially to support William the Conqueror's (c. 1029-1087) holdings in France, Britain's policy of active involvement in continental European affairs endured for several hundred years. By the end of the 14th century, foreign trade, originally based on wool exports to Europe, had emerged as a cornerstone of national policy.

The foundations of sea power were gradually laid to protect English trade and open up new routes. Defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588 firmly established England as a major sea power. Thereafter, its interests outside Europe grew steadily. Attracted by the spice trade, English mercantile interests spread first to the Far East. In search of an alternate route to the Spice Islands, John Cabot reached the North American continent in 1498. Sir Walter Raleigh organized the first, short-lived colony in Virginia in 1584, and permanent English settlement began in 1607 at Jamestown, Virginia. During the next two

centuries, Britain extended its influence abroad and consolidated its political development at home.

Great Britain's industrial revolution greatly strengthened its ability to oppose Napoleonic France. By the end of the Napoleonic Wars in 1815, the United Kingdom was the foremost European power, and its navy ruled the seas. Peace in Europe allowed the British to focus their interests on more remote parts of the world, and, during this period, the British Empire reached its zenith. British colonial expansion reached its height largely during the reign of Queen Victoria (1837-1901). Queen Victoria's reign witnessed the spread of British technology, commerce, language, and government throughout the British Empire, which at its greatest extent encompassed roughly one-fifth to one-quarter of the world's area and population. British colonies contributed to the United Kingdom's extraordinary economic growth and strengthened its voice in world affairs. Even as the United Kingdom extended its imperial reach overseas, it continued to develop and broaden its democratic institutions at home.

20th Century

By the time of Queen Victoria's death in 1901, other nations, including the United States and Germany, had developed their own industries; the United Kingdom's comparative economic advantage had lessened, and the ambitions of its rivals had grown. The losses and destruction of World War I, the depression of the 1930s, and decades of relatively slow growth eroded the United Kingdom's preeminent international position of the previous century.

Britain's control over its empire loosened during the interwar period. Ireland, with the exception of six northern counties, gained independence from the United Kingdom in 1921. Nationalism became stronger in other parts of the Empire, particularly in India and Egypt.

In 1926, the U.K., completing a process begun a century earlier, granted Australia, Canada, and New Zealand complete autonomy within the Empire. They became charter members of the British Commonwealth of Nations (now known as the Commonwealth), an informal but closely knit association that succeeded the Empire. Beginning with the independence of India and Pakistan in 1947, the remainder of the British Empire was almost completely dismantled. Today, most of Britain's former colonies belong to the Commonwealth, almost all of them as independent members. There

are, however, 13 former British colonies--including Bermuda, Gibraltar, the Falkland Islands, and others--which have elected to continue their political links with London and are known as United Kingdom Overseas Territories.

Although often marked by economic and political nationalism, the Commonwealth offers the United Kingdom a voice in matters concerning many developing countries. In addition, the Commonwealth helps preserve many institutions deriving from British experience and models, such as parliamentary democracy, in those countries.

GOVERNMENT

The United Kingdom does not have a written constitution. The equivalent body of law is based on statute, common law, and "traditional rights." Changes may come about formally through new acts of parliament, informally through the acceptance of new practices and usage, or by judicial precedents. Although parliament has the theoretical power to make or repeal any law, in actual practice the weight of 700 years of tradition restrains arbitrary actions.

Executive government rests nominally with the Monarch but actually is exercised by a Committee of Ministers (cabinet) traditionally selected from among the members of the House of Commons and, to a lesser extent, the House of Lords. The prime minister is normally the leader of the largest party in the Commons, and the government is dependent on its support.

Parliament represents the entire country and can legislate for the whole or for any constituent part or combination of parts. The maximum parliamentary term is 5 years, but the prime minister may ask the Monarch to dissolve parliament and call a general election at any time. The focus of legislative power is the 650-member House of Commons, which has sole jurisdiction over finance. The House of Lords, although shorn of most of its powers, can still review, amend, or delay temporarily any bills except those relating to the budget. The House of Lords has more time than the House of Commons to pursue one of its more important functions--debating public issues. In 1999, the government removed the automatic right of hereditary peers to hold seats in the House of Lords. The current house consists of appointed life peers who hold their seats for life and 92 hereditary peers who will hold their seats only until final reforms have been

agreed upon and implemented. The judiciary is independent of the legislative and executive branches but cannot review the constitutionality of legislation.

The separate identities of each of the U.K.'s constituent parts also is reflected in their respective governmental structures. Up until the recent devolution of power to Scotland and Wales, a cabinet minister (the Secretary of State for Wales) handled Welsh affairs at the national level with the advice of a broadly representative council for Wales. Scotland maintains, as it did before union with England, different systems of law (Roman-French), education, local government, judiciary, and national church (the Church of Scotland instead of the Church of England). In addition, separate departments grouped under a Secretary of State for Scotland, who also is a cabinet member, handled most domestic matters. In late 1997, however, following approval of referenda by Scottish and Welsh voters (though only narrowly in Wales), the British Government introduced legislation to establish a Scottish parliament and a Welsh Assembly. Elections for the two bodies were held May 6, 1999. The Welsh Assembly opened on May 26, and the Scottish parliament opened on July 1, 1999. The devolved legislatures have largely taken over most of the functions previously performed by the Scottish and Welsh offices.

Devolved government was reestablished in Northern Ireland in December 1999 under the terms of the Good Friday Agreement, which established the basis for ending the political divisions and violence that had plagued Northern Ireland for decades. The Good Friday Agreement provides for a 108-member elected Assembly, overseen by a 12-minister Executive Committee (cabinet) in which unionists and nationalists share leadership responsibility. While Northern Ireland elects 18 representatives to the Westminster parliament in London, the two Sinn Fein MPs who won seats in the last election have refused to claim their seats.

Northern Ireland had its own parliament and prime minister from 1921 to 1973, when the British Government imposed direct rule in order to deal with the deteriorating political and security situation. From 1973, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, based in London, was responsible for the region, including efforts to resolve the issues that lay behind the "the Troubles."

By the mid-1990s, gestures toward peace encouraged by successive

British Governments and by President Clinton began to open the door for restored local government in Northern Ireland. An IRA cease-fire and nearly 2 years of multiparty negotiations, led by former U.S. Senator George Mitchell, resulted in the Good Friday Agreement of April 10, 1998, which was subsequently approved by majorities in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Key elements of the Agreement include devolved government, a commitment of the parties to work toward "total disarmament of all paramilitary organizations," police reform, and enhanced mechanisms to guarantee human rights and equal opportunity. The Good Friday Agreement also called for formal cooperation between the Northern Ireland institutions and the Government of the Republic of Ireland, and it established the British-Irish Council, which includes representatives of the British and Irish Governments as well as the devolved Governments of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

The parties disagree over the implementation of key elements of the Good Friday Agreement, and sporadic violence by paramilitary organizations continues to threaten the normalization process. The key parties, nevertheless, remain committed to the peace process and continue to work for full implementation of the agreement. While Unionists insist that actual decommissioning of paramilitary weapons should precede normalization of political and security arrangements, they have acknowledged the significance of intermediate steps, including the inspection of IRA arms dumps in June 2000 by independent international inspectors. Movement on decommissioning has been mirrored by progress on political and security normalization.

The United States remains firmly committed to the peace process in Northern Ireland and continues to support normalization of institutions as the best means to ensure that all parties' commitment to relying solely on peaceful and democratic means to resolve issues. U.S. Government policy on Northern Ireland condemns all acts of terrorism and violence, perpetrated by any party on either side. It also cautions all Americans to question closely any appeal for financial or other aid from groups involved in the Northern Ireland conflict to ensure that contributions do not end up in the hands of those who support violence, either directly or indirectly.

The U.S. also is committed to Northern Ireland's economic development and to date has given or pledged contributions of more than \$300 million to the International Fund for Ireland. The fund provides grants and loans to businesses to improve the economy,

redress inequalities of employment opportunity, and improve crossborder business and community ties.

Principal Government Officials

Head of State--Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II Prime Minister (Head of Government)--The Rt. Hon. Tony Blair, MP Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs-- The Rt. Hon. Robin Cook, MP Ambassador to the U.S.--Sir Christopher Meyer, KCMG Ambassador to the UN--Sir Jeremy Greenstock, KCMG

The United Kingdom maintains an embassy in the United States at 3100 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20008 (tel. 202-588-6500; fax 202-588-7870).

POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Current Labour Prime Minister Tony Blair was elected on May 1, 1997, with a massive 176-seat majority in the House of Commons. Labour's victory ended an 18-year run of Conservative (Tory) Party rule in the U.K.. Blair worked hard to reorganize and reenergize the Labour Party, moving it steadily to the center of the political spectrum. Both main British parties support a strong transatlantic link but have become increasingly absorbed by European issues as Britain's economic and political ties to the continent grow in the post-Cold War world. Prime Minister Blair has promised that the U.K. will play a leading role in Europe. Britain's relationship with Europe, in particular its potential participation in the single European currency, the euro, is a subject of considerable political discussion in the U.K. Whether Britain will adopt the euro is likely to be a defining issue in the next U.K. national elections, which could take place as early as spring 2001.

U.S.-U.K. RELATIONS

The United Kingdom is one of the United States' closest allies, and British foreign policy emphasizes close coordination with the United States. Bilateral cooperation reflects the common language, ideals, and democratic practices of the two nations. Relations were strengthened by the U.K.'s alliance with the United States during both World Wars and its role as a founding member of NATO, in the Korean conflict, and the Persian Gulf War. The United Kingdom and the United States continually consult on foreign policy issues and

global problems and share major foreign and security policy objectives. In the United Nations, the U.K. is a permanent member of the Security Council.

The U.K. is a founding member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and has been a member of the European Community (now European Union) since 1973. The U.K. is one of NATO's major European maritime powers and ranked third in 1996 among NATO countries in total defense expenditure.

The British armed forces are charged with protecting the United Kingdom and its overseas territories, promoting Britain's wider security interests, and supporting international peacekeeping efforts. The 44,000-member Royal Navy is in charge of the U.K.'s independent strategic nuclear arm, which consists of four Trident missile submarines. The Royal Marines provide commando units for amphibious assault and for specialist reinforcement forces in and beyond the NATO area. The British Army, with a reported strength of 110,000 in 1999, including 7,600 women, and the Royal Air Force with a strength of 55,000, along with the Royal Navy and Royal Marines, are active and regular participants in NATO and other coalition operations.

Trade and Investment

The United Kingdom has the fourth-largest economy in the world, has one of the largest economies in the European Union, and is a major international trading power. London ranks with New York as a leading international financial center.

The U.K. is the fourth-largest U.S. market after Canada, Japan, and Mexico; U.S. exports to the U.K. in 1999 were \$38.3 billion. For the first time in 5 years, the U.S. ran a deficit with the U.K., importing \$39.2 billion in 1999. The U.K. is a large source of foreign tourists in the U.S.

The U.S. and the U.K. share the world's largest investment partnership. U.S. investment in the U.K. reached \$213.1 billion in 1999, while U.K. investment is valued at \$183.0 billion. This investment sustains over one million American jobs.

Since 1979, the British Government has privatized most state-owned companies, including British Steel, British Airways, British Telecom,

British Coal, British Aerospace, and British Gas, although in some cases the government retains a "golden share" in these companies. The Labour government has continued the privatization policy of its predecessor, including by encouraging "public-private partnerships" (partial privatization) in such areas as the National Air Traffic Control System.

The United Kingdom is an energy-rich nation with significant reserves of oil and gas in the North Sea and the Irish Sea and large coal resources. A total of 150 million tons of oil were produced in the U.K. in 1999. U.K. offshore areas should be an important source of continued production and new discoveries for some years. U.S. oil and oil-service companies participate actively in the North Sea oil industry and consider the United Kingdom an attractive environment for future investment.

Principal U.S. Officials

Ambassador--Philip Lader
Deputy Chief of Mission--Glyn Davies
Minister-Counselor for Political Affairs--Morton Dworken
Minister-Counselor for Commercial Affairs--David Katz
Minister-Counselor for Economic Affairs--Peter Chase
Minister-Counselor for Public Diplomacy--Pamela Smith
U.S. Consul General in Belfast--Jane Fort
U.S. Consul General in Edinburgh--Liane Dorsey

The U.S. Embassy in the United Kingdom is located at: 24 Grosvenor Sq., W1A 1AE, London (tel. [44] (207) 499-9000; fax [44] (207) 409-1637). Internet website: <http://www.usembassy.org.U.K.>

TRAVEL AND BUSINESS INFORMATION

The U.S. Department of State's Consular Information Program provides Consular Information Sheets, Travel Warnings, and Public Announcements. **Consular Information Sheets** exist for all countries and include information on entry requirements, currency regulations, health conditions, areas of instability, crime and security, political disturbances, and the addresses of the U.S. posts in the country. **Travel Warnings** are issued when the State Department recommends that Americans avoid travel to a certain country. **Public Announcements** are issued as a means to disseminate information

quickly about terrorist threats and other relatively short-term conditions overseas which pose significant risks to the security of American travelers. Free copies of this information are available by calling the Bureau of Consular Affairs at 202-647-5225 or via the fax-on-demand system: 202-647-3000. Consular Information Sheets and Travel Warnings also are available on the Consular Affairs Internet home page: <http://travel.state.gov>. Consular Affairs Tips for Travelers publication series, which contain information on obtaining passports and planning a safe trip abroad are on the internet and hard copies can be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, telephone: 202-512-1800; fax 202-512-2250.

Emergency information concerning Americans traveling abroad may be obtained from the Office of Overseas Citizens Services at (202) 647-5225. For after-hours emergencies, Sundays and holidays, call 202-647-4000.

Passport information can be obtained by calling the National Passport Information Center's automated system (\$.35 per minute) or live operators 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (EST) Monday-Friday (\$1.05 per minute). The number is 1-900-225-5674 (TDD: 1-900-225-7778). Major credit card users (for a flat rate of \$4.95) may call 1-888-362-8668 (TDD: 1-888-498-3648). It also is available on the internet.

Travelers can check the latest health information with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia. A hotline at 877-FYI-TRIP (877-394-8747) and a web site at <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/index.htm> give the most recent health advisories, immunization recommendations or requirements, and advice on food and drinking water safety for regions and countries. A booklet entitled Health Information for International Travel (HHS publication number CDC-95-8280) is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402, tel. (202) 512-1800.

Information on travel conditions, visa requirements, currency and customs regulations, legal holidays, and other items of interest to travelers also may be obtained before your departure from a country's embassy and/or consulates in the U.S. (for this country, see "Principal Government Officials" listing in this publication).

U.S. citizens who are long-term visitors or traveling in dangerous areas are encouraged to register at the U.S. embassy upon arrival in a

country (see "Principal U.S. Embassy Officials" listing in this publication). This may help family members contact you in case of an emergency.

Further Electronic Information

Department of State Foreign Affairs Network. Available on the Internet, DOSFAN provides timely, global access to official U.S. foreign policy information. Updated daily, DOSFAN includes Background Notes; daily press briefings; Country Commercial Guides; directories of key officers of Foreign Service posts; etc. DOSFAN's World Wide Web site is at <http://www.state.gov>.

National Trade Data Bank (NTDB). Operated by the U.S. Department of Commerce, the NTDB contains a wealth of trade-related information. It is available on the Internet (www.stat-usa.gov) and on CD-ROM. Call the NTDB Help-Line at (202) 482-1986 for more information.

[end document]

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Inclusion of non-U.S. Government links does not imply endorsement of contents.

Philip Lader
U.S. Ambassador to
the United Kingdom

South Carolina businessman and educator Philip Lader took the oath of office as U.S. Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on September 12, 1997. Mr. Lader presented his credentials to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on December 5, 1997.

The Ambassador had served in President Clinton's Cabinet as Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration and previously was White House Deputy Chief of Staff and Assistant to the President. Formerly, as Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget, he worked closely with Vice President Gore on the Clinton Administration's "reinventing government" initiatives.

Before entering government service, Ambassador Lader had been president of Sea Pines Company (developer/operator of award-winning, large-scale recreation communities), executive vice president of the late Sir James Goldsmith's U.S. holding company, and president of universities in South Carolina and Australia. He founded Renaissance Weekends, the family retreats for innovative leaders, in 1981.

Mr. Lader is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the Chief Executives Organization and is an Honorary Fellow of Pembroke College, Oxford University. He formerly served on the boards of the American Red Cross, Duke University's Public Policy Institute, and several banks and universities, as well as president of Business Executives for National Security. He was a candidate for South Carolina Governor in 1986, having chaired and served on the boards of numerous economic development and education institutions and projects.

His education includes Duke University (Phi Beta Kappa), the University of Michigan (M.A. in History), graduate studies in Law at Pembroke College, Oxford University, and Harvard Law School (J.D.). He has been awarded honorary doctorates by a number of other institutions.

His wife, Linda LeSourd Lader, is President of the Renaissance Institute and has served on the boards of various U.S. and U.K. education and children's organizations, including Harvard Divinity School's Center for the Study of Values in Public Life. Mr. and Mrs. Lader, and their two daughters, maintain their permanent residence on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.

Key U.S. Officials in the United Kingdom

Deputy Chief of Mission

Glyn T. Davies

Political Affairs

Morton R. Dworken

Economic Affairs

Peter H. Chase

Commercial Affairs

David Katz

Consular Affairs

Wayne G. Griffith

Administrative Affairs

Lee R. Lohman

Regional Security Affairs

Tony R. Bell

Public Affairs

Pamela H. Smith

The White House
Office of the First Lady

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 7, 2000

CONTACT: LISSA MUSCATINE
ERIKA BATCHELLER
GAYLEEN DALSIMER
202/456-2960

**TRIP OF FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
TO THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND, NORTHERN IRELAND AND ENGLAND
December 12-14, 2000**

NOTE: This schedule outlines the First Lady's separate press events during the President's trip to the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland and England. The First Lady has two events planned, including a reception with Irish women leaders in Dublin and a major speech in Belfast. Other events may be added.

Additional information will be released when it becomes available, and all schedules are subject to change. Please see the President's schedule for a full itinerary.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2000

11:00 p.m. **Reception with Irish Women Leaders**
Ambassador's Residence
Dublin, Ireland

Press Notes:

POOL PRESS for photo op and brief remarks. Lighting and mult provided. Throw approx. 20 feet. The on-site press contact is Stephen Feder. Pool will depart from Castle press filing center at approximately 10:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2000

11:00 a.m. **Speech on "Raising Vital Voices in the New Northern Ireland"**
Opera House
Belfast, Northern Ireland

As a follow-up to the September 1998 Vital Voices Conference, *Women in Democracy*, and a subsequent speech to women leaders in Belfast in 1999, the First Lady will deliver remarks on "Raising Vital Voices in the New Northern Ireland." President Clinton announced the 1998 Belfast Vital Voices Conference as part of the United States government's initiatives in support of peace in Northern Ireland, specifically to highlight women's role in the economic and political life of their society.

Press Notes:

OPEN PRESS. Riser, mult, lighting provided. Additional information TBD.

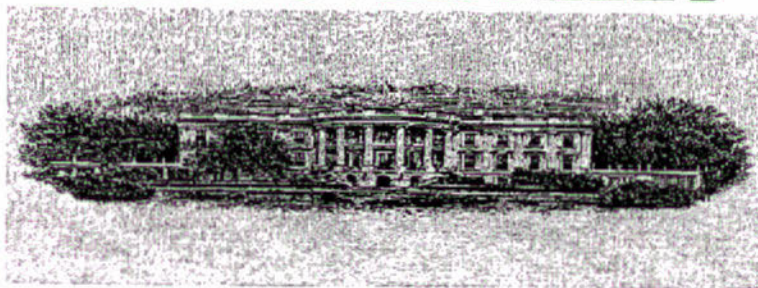
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POOL FOR RECEPTION WITH WOMEN LEADERS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2000
DUBLIN, IRELAND

Marc Lacey, NYT
Jim Dwyer, NY Daily News
Debra Rosenberg, Newsweek
Mara Bellaby, AP (print)
AP Photo (TBD)

Network camera TBD

FAX COVER SHEET



DUBLIN, IRELAND
WH STAFF OFFICE

FAX NUMBER (5 DIGIT): 31501/31502

TO: FRICA - ⁽²⁰²⁾ 456-7805 - 6244

FROM: FEDER

SUBJECT: Article.

NO. OF PAGES: 2

COMMENTS: This Article was in the
Paler

Directly outside the courthouse will be students from the

● The dissident republican group, the 32-County Sover-

from Louth, Monaghan, Armagh
and Down.

Well-placed sources suggest that Xerox's choice of Dundalk went a long way to ensuring the town was also chosen by Mr

nal with the portrayal of Jharkhand as 'bandit country'; it was most unfair on the vast majority of people in this town."

On the streets of Dundalk there was surprise at Mr Clin-

**By Deaglán de Bréadún,
Foreign Affairs Correspondent**

Mrs Clinton is likely to meet the women, including several senior and junior ministers, at Deerfield, the US ambassador's residence in the Phoenix Park, Dublin, tomorrow morning, while President Clinton is holding talks with the Taoiseach at Government Buildings.

The Belfast singer, Brian Kennedy, will perform *Danny Boy*, described as "the President's favourite song" at the open-air rally for Mr Clinton in Dundalk tomorrow evening.

The President will give two addresses in the Republic, the first at the reception in the Guinness Storehouse, Dublin, at lunchtime tomorrow, the second shortly after 7 p.m. in Dundalk. The Taoiseach is to make an introductory speech at both events.

Two stages have been erected in Dundalk, one for the President and another for the entertainers. The musical acts, including Brian Kennedy, Altan, Dónal Lunny and Liam Reilly, will be introduced by the RTÉ broadcaster, Gerry Ryan.

Fevered preparations for the visit were in progress yesterday in Dundalk, involving represen-

tatives of the White House, the US State Department, the Departments of the Taoiseach and Foreign Affairs and both Irish and US security agencies.

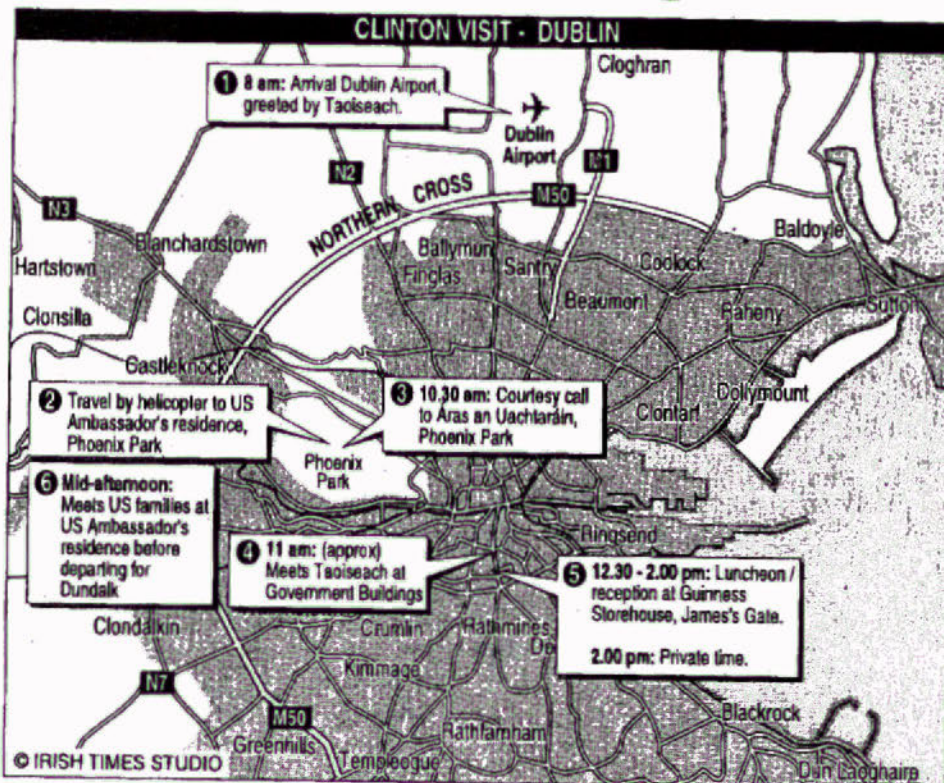
Although Mr Clinton will travel by helicopter from Dublin Airport to the Phoenix Park, he will make his way from there to Government Buildings by car.

The President arrives at the airport at 7.55 a.m. and is due

at the US ambassador's residence at 8.40 a.m. He will make a courtesy call at Áras an Uachtaráin at 10.25 a.m.; arrive for his meeting with the Taoiseach in Government Buildings at 11.20; attend the lunch reception at the Guinness Storehouse, Market Street, Dublin from 12.30 to 2 p.m.; hold a private meeting with representatives of the US community in Ireland at 4.30 p.m. in the am-

bassador's residence; and give his public address in Dundalk shortly after 7 p.m. before flying to Belfast by helicopter.

On Wednesday he will meet the Northern parties at Stormont in the morning and in the afternoon he will give a keynote speech at Belfast's Odyssey Centre. On Wednesday evening he will fly to Chequers for dinner with the Blair family.



- | | |
|----|---|
| 1. | To recommend standards on animal husbandry, poultry numbers and withdrawals, regard to EC Regulation 2092/91 by Regulation 1804/99 and to the of the three organic inspection 15th September 2000. |
| 2. | <p>(i) To identify sources of market intelligence to the organic food sector and to develop approaches to the effective collection of this intelligence and its dissemination to producers and processors.</p> <p>(ii) To identify the main measures to establish an effective system of assurance for organic products.</p> <p>(iii) To identify opportunities for direct selling by producers of organic produce.</p> <p>(iv) To make recommendations for the promotion of organic products.</p> <p>(v) To consider and recommend measures available to all Irish organic producers and processors.</p> |
| 3. | To identify priorities in the areas of advice, training and education to enhance the scope for development of the organic sector, and to recommend actions to be taken by (a) the state, (b) the private sector and (c) joint |

Each of these sub-groups will report to Development Committee. The Committees are to make submissions to the sub-matters falling within their terms of reference.

A person or organisation may make more than one submission, but each submission should relate to a single sub-group only. Each submission should state which of the three sub-groups it relates to and should not be longer than 1,000 words.

Submissions should be forwarded to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Johnstown Castle, Co. Wexford for redistribution to the appropriate sub-group.

The closing date for receipt of submissions is 15 November 2001. For further information, please contact the Organic Unit at (053) 63400 or Lo-call 11 911 911.



**DEPARTMENT OF A
FOOD & RURAL DE**

email: information@daff.irl.gov.ie

Teresa Mammion	RTE Reporter
Michael Cassidy	(RTE camera)
Patsy McGarry	Irish Times
Justine McCarthy	Irish Independent

Ian Wallice	Reuters	} Photographer
David Sleater	IT	
John Cogill	AP	

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2000

- -

FINAL

DUBLIN, IRELAND/ DUNDALK, IRELAND/ BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND

DUBLIN ADVANCE:

LEAD: PETE SELFRIDGE
011-353-87-948-4702 CELL

SITE: DEIRDRE FRAWLEY
011-353-87-948-4683 CELL

PRESS: STEVE FEDER
011-353-87-948-4752 CELL

DUNDALK ADVANCE:

LEAD: MELISSA GRAHAM
011-353-87-948-8709 CELL

BELFAST ADVANCE:

LEAD: MOLLY BUFORD
011-44-774-867-6324 CELL

SITE: ANN O'LEARY
011-44-774-867-6382 CELL

SITE: HEATHER KING
011-44-774-867-6345 CELL

PRESS: ELLEN MELLODY
011-44-774-867-6325 CELL

SCHEDULER: MELODIE GREENE
202/456-7847 PHONE
202/395-1501 CELL
202/456-5340 FAX
202/667-5547 HOME
WHCA PAGER #4938

PREV RON Aboard Air Force One

7:55 am WHEELS DOWN Dublin International Airport

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2000

- -

GREETERS:

Taoiseach Bertie Ahern
Celia Larkin
Tanaiste Mary Harney
Brian Cowen, Foreign Minister
Mary Cowen
Liz O'Donnell, Minister of State, Foreign Affairs
Michael Carson
Sean O'hUiginn, Irish Ambassador to US
Bernadette O'hUiginn
Mike Sullivan, US Ambassador to Ireland
Jane Sullivan
Earle Scarlett, Deputy Chief of Mission
Barbara Scarlett, Public Affairs Officer
Brian Nason, Chief of Protocol

NOTE: Upon arrival, POTUS and HRC sign guest book
at base of aircraft stairs.

STAFF NOTE: Upon arrival, staff will proceed directly to Jury's
Hotel for down time.

8:10 am **WHEELS UP** Dublin Int'l Airport via Marine One
 EN ROUTE Phoenix Park Landing Zone
 [Flight time: 15 minutes]

8:25 am **WHEELS DOWN** Phoenix Park Landing Zone

8:35 am **DEPART** Phoenix Park Landing Zone
 EN ROUTE Ambassador's Residence
 [Drive time: 5 minutes]

8:40 am **ARRIVE** Ambassador's Residence

8:45 am- **DOWN TIME**
9:40 am Master Bedroom
 Ambassador's Residence

9:45 am- **DELEGATION BREAKFAST RECEPTION**

**SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2000**

- -

10:15 am Ballroom
 Ambassador's Residence
CLOSED PRESS

FORMAT:

-Ambassador Mike Sullivan makes brief welcoming remarks and introduces Senator Patrick Leahy.

-Senator Patrick Leahy makes brief remarks and introduces HRC.

-HRC makes remarks and introduces POTUS.

-POTUS makes remarks.

-POTUS and HRC mix and mingle with guests.

-POTUS and HRC depart.

PARTICIPANTS: Approximately 60 guests

10:20 am **DEPART** Ambassador's Residence
EN ROUTE President's Residence
[Drive time: 5 minutes]

10:25 am **ARRIVE** President's Residence
POOL PRESS

GREETERS-ENTRANCE:

President Mary McAleese
Dr. Martin McAleese

GREETERS-FOYER:

Emma McAleese
Justin McAleese
Sara McAleese

10:30 am- **COURTESY CALL WITH IRISH PRESIDENT MARY MCALEESE**
11:00 am State Reception Room and State Drawing Room
 President's Residence

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2000

- - -
HOST TV/POOL PRESS

FORMAT:

-POTUS and HRC, accompanied by President Mary McAleese, Dr. Martin McAleese, and McAleese children proceed down the Francini Corridor to the State Reception Room.

HOST TV

-POTUS and HRC sign the guest book.

POOL PRESS

-POTUS and HRC, accompanied by President McAleese and Dr. Martin McAleese proceed to State Drawing Room.

-POTUS, HRC, President McAleese, and Dr. Martin McAleese participate in a brief meeting.

STILLS AND HOST TV

-Upon conclusion of meeting, POTUS and HRC will be escorted to the State Reception Room to greet the Delegation.

-POTUS and HRC, accompanied by President McAleese and her family, depart through the garden and pause for photo opportunity.

POOL PRESS

-POTUS and HRC depart.

NOTE: HRC and POTUS depart President's Residence separately.

HRC STAFF NOTE: Van will depart lobby of Jury's Hotel at 10:30am en route Ambassador's Residence.

11:05 am **DEPART** President's Residence
 EN ROUTE Ambassador's Residence
 [Drive time: 5 minutes]

11:10 am **ARRIVE** Ambassador's Residence

11:15 am- **RECEPTION WITH PROMINENT IRISH WOMEN LEADERS**
12:00 pm Ballroom
 Ambassador's Residence
 POOL SPRAY FOR REMARKS ONLY

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2000

- -

FORMAT:

-Mrs. Sullivan makes brief welcoming remarks and introduces Mary O'Rourke.

-Mary O'Rourke, Minister for Public Enterprise, makes brief remarks and introduces HRC.

-HRC makes brief remarks.

-HRC mixes and mingles with guests.

-HRC departs.

PARTICIPANTS: Approximately 50 guests

12:05 pm

DEPART Ambassador's Residence
EN ROUTE Guinness Store House
[Drive time: approximately 15 minutes]

12:20 pm

ARRIVE Guinness Store House

NOTE: POTUS will arrive at 12:25 pm.

GREETERS:

Brian Duffy, Managing Director, Guinness Ireland Group

Clive Brownbee, Assistant Managing Director, Guinness Ireland Group

Pat Berry, Director of Corporate Affairs, Guinness Ireland Group

Paul Carty, General Manager, Guinness Storehouse

12:30 pm-

1:10 pm

RECEIVING LINE WITH THE OIREACHTAS

Lobby, Ground Floor
Guinness Store House

POOL PRESS

FORMAT:

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2000

- - -
-POTUS and HRC, accompanied by Taoiseach Bertie Ahern and Celia Larkin, receive guests.

PARTICIPANTS: Approximately 235 guests

1:15 pm-
1:40 pm

REMARKS TO RECEPTION HOSTED BY TAOISEACH
Arrol Suite, 2nd Floor
Guinness Store House
EXPANDED POOL PRESS

FORMAT:

-Off-stage announcement of POTUS and HRC, accompanied by Taoiseach Bertie Ahern and Celia Larkin.

-Taoiseach Bertie Ahern makes remarks and introduces POTUS.

-POTUS makes remarks.

-POTUS and HRC work a ropeline and proceed to the 5th Floor to greet overflow crowd.

PARTICIPANTS: Approximately 1,000 guests

1:45 pm-
1:55 pm

ROPELINE WITH OVERFLOW CROWD
5th Floor
Guinness Store House
CLOSED PRESS

PARTICIPANTS: Approximately 1,000 guests

2:00 pm-
2:20 pm

PRIVATE RECEPTION
Gravity Bar, 7th Floor
Guinness Store House
HOST TV(AT THE TOP)

FORMAT:

-Taoiseach Bertie Ahern makes a toast and escorts POTUS and HRC to view the city skyline to the

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2000

- -

south.

-Upon conclusion of the toast, POTUS and HRC, accompanied by Taoiseach Bertie Ahern and Celia Larkin, join guests in a buffet lunch.

-Upon conclusion of lunch, POTUS and HRC depart.

PARTICIPANTS: Approximately 40 guests

2:25 pm **DEPART** Guinness Store House w/POTUS
 EN ROUTE TBD
 [Drive time: tbd]

2:30 pm **ARRIVE** TBD

2:30 pm- **DOWN TIME**
5:00 pm Location TBD

STAFF NOTE: Staff vans will depart the Jury's Hotel en route Phoenix Park Landing Zone at 5:00 pm.

5:00 pm **DEPART** TBD
 EN ROUTE Ambassador's Residence
 [Drive time: tbd]

5:15 pm **ARRIVE** Ambassador's Residence

NOTE: Upon arrival, POTUS and HRC will pose for photos with the Marine Detachment and the George Mitchell Scholars.

5:20 pm- **EMBASSY EVENT**
5:45 pm Ballroom
 Ambassador's Residence
 CLOSED PRESS

FORMAT:

-Ambassador Mike Sullivan makes brief remarks and introduces HRC.

-HRC makes remarks and introduces POTUS.

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2000

- -

-POTUS makes remarks.

-POTUS and HRC work a ropeline and depart.

PARTICIPANTS: Approximately 200 guests

NOTE: In case of inclement weather, POTUS and HRC will depart Ambassador's Residence via motorcade en route Market Square, Dundalk. [Drive time: 1 hour]

5:50 pm **DEPART** Ambassador's Residence
 EN ROUTE Phoenix Park Landing Zone
 [Drive time: 5 minutes]

5:55 pm **ARRIVE** Phoenix Park Landing Zone

GREETERS:

Taoiseach Bertie Ahern
Celia Larkin
Others tbd

6:05 pm **WHEELS UP** Phoenix Park LZ via Marine One
 EN ROUTE Aken Barracks Landing Zone, Dundalk
 [Flight time: 30 minutes]

6:35 pm **WHEELS DOWN** Aken Barracks Landing Zone

6:45 pm **DEPART** Aken Barracks Landing Zone
 EN ROUTE Market Square
 [Drive time: 5 minutes]

6:50 pm **ARRIVE** Market Square

GREETERS:

Joan MacGuinness, Company Secretary, Facility
Management Workshop Limited
Pearce O'hannahan, Chairman, Dundalk Urban
District Council
Mary Murray, Allied Irish Bank
Shane and Ciara Hanratty
10-15 Dundalk City Council members tbd

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2000

- -

NOTE: Upon arrival POTUS and HRC sign guest book.
HRC is presented with gifts from two children.

7:00 pm-
8:15 pm

POTUS REMARKS TO THE PEOPLE OF DUNDALK
Market Square
OPEN PRESS

FORMAT:

-Off-stage announcement of POTUS and HRC,
accompanied by Taoiseach Bertie Ahern, Pearce
O'Hanrahan, and Joan MacGuinness.

-Pearce O'hanrahan, Chairman, Dundalk Urban
District Council, makes brief remarks, presents a
gift to POTUS, and introduces Joan MacGuinness.

-Joan MacGuinness makes brief remarks and
introduces Taoiseach Bertie Ahern.

-Taoiseach Bertie Ahern makes brief remarks and
introduces POTUS.

-POTUS makes remarks.

-Off-stage announcement of Brian Kennedy,
accompanied by 10 school children.

-Brian Kennedy leads the audience in singing of
song.

-POTUS and HRC work a ropeline and depart.

PARTICIPANTS: Approximately 15,000 guests

8:25 pm

DEPART Market Square
EN ROUTE Aken Barracks Landing Zone
[Drive time: 5 minutes]

8:30 pm

ARRIVE Aken Barracks Landing Zone

8:40 pm

WHEELS UP Aken Barracks LZ via Marine One
EN ROUTE Belfast City Airport, Northern Ireland
[Flight time: 30 minutes]

NOTE: In case of inclement weather, POTUS and HRC will depart
Market Square via motorcade en route Hilton Hotel, Belfast.
[Drive time: 1 hour]

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2000

- -

9:10 pm **WHEELS DOWN** Belfast City Airport

GREETERS:

Lord Lieutenant Lady Romaine Carswell
Peter Mandelson, Secretary of State, N. Ireland
Michael Ryan, Vice President, Bombardier-Shorts

9:20 pm **DEPART** Belfast City Airport

EN ROUTE Hilton Hotel
[Drive time: 5 minutes]

9:25 pm **ARRIVE** Hilton Hotel

GREETERS:

Wael Ellassal, Revenue Manager, Hilton Hotel
Matthew Mullan, General Manager, Hilton Hotel
Terry Campbell, Group Coordinator, Hilton Hotel

RON Hilton Hotel
Belfast, Northern Ireland

WEATHER FORECAST:

Dublin, Ireland - Chance of rain. High 45. Low 38.

Dundalk, Ireland - Chance of rain. High 46. Low 37.

Belfast, Northern Ireland - Rain. High 45. Low 34.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. manifest	re: Aircraft Manifests (13 pages)	12/11/2000	b(7)(C), b(7)(E), b(7)(F), b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Lissa Muscatine
OA/Box Number: 21396

FOLDER TITLE:

Trip to U.K. 12/00

2015-0275-S
rc1929

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]

DELIVERABLES

1. Follow up to Vital Voices Training in Political Participation

As part of the follow-up to Vital Voices and building on the successes of two previous training sessions, the David Bohnett Foundation will underwrite an intensive skill-building conference in Northern Ireland the coming spring to strengthen communities, promote cross-community relations and advance the cause of peaceful governance.

The David Bohnett Northern Ireland Empowerment Conference will bring to Belfast leading government affairs specialists and media personalities from the United States to conduct small-group training sessions with hundreds of community activists and grass-roots political leaders.

The conference will be coordinated by Northern Ireland Voluntary Trust (NVIT) and the American Friends of NVIT.

Amount: \$50,000

2. Conference for Women Parliamentarians

Building on the ground-breaking work Vital Voices has undertaken with women in Northern Ireland to enhance their political participation, this conference will would bring together women members from the new Assemblies in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. They will be joined by women parliamentarians from Westminster in England and the Dial of the Irish Republic as well as representatives of the European Parliament.

The conference will be organized by Vital Voices Global Partnership in conjunction with the National Democratic Institute (NDI). Through this meeting, NDI will provide participants with the opportunity to become acquainted with one another and to learn about issues they share in common. It will also enable women who have served in Westminster or the Dial for a longer period of time to share their experiences with more recently elected members of the Assemblies of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Amount: \$50,000

3. Vital Voices Conference of Women and Technology

Vital Voices of Northern Ireland will host a work entitled "Women and New Technology" on March 8th. Participants from Enniskillen, Belfast and Derry will attend this first conference focused on women in Northern Ireland and technology via satellite. Together they will develop a roll-out program which will feature new technology opportunities and options for women throughout Northern Ireland.

This Vital Voice conference is supported by Vital Voices supporters in business and government including, Sir Reg Empey, Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Investment for Northern Ireland.

Amount: TBD



"Kiely, Kathy" <kkiely@usatoday.com>
12/11/2000 01:34:12 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Lissa Muscatine/WHO/EOP
cc:
Subject: Yer itinerary; her book deal

Hi, saw you at the Xmas bash last night but you were deep in conversation with Karen Breslau so I didn't interrupt . . .

Bob Minz, our book wizard, called this ayem to say that bids for Hillary's next book are due later today. Should we be nosing for news on that front today? Or will a decision come later due to her travel sked? Any guidance you can give would be much appreciated.

Have fun in the Auld Sod... Our gal on the scene is USA TODAY's London correspondent, Ellen Hale. Her mobile number is: (011 44 (0) 7770 963-451). She is probably going to stick close to the president but has your skeds and is interested. So if you're doing anything of particiular interest, keep her in mind. Her email is ehale@usatoday.com

Let me know when you get back and we'll do the cookbook exchange.

To: Lissa and Erika
From: Gayleen
Re: Ireland/England Trip Meeting

The following was discussed during the December 5th meeting.

- ◆ Vital Voices was discussed as important topic
- ◆ In Dublin (Tuesday, December 12): possible meeting with Republic of Ireland woman (women of Doyle). For Press, a press spray was discussed.
- ◆ In Belfast (Wednesday, December 13): speech in Opera House near Stormont. Press risers will be placed. ~600 people in attendance. To make it more intimate, it was discussed to have people on stage with HRC.
- ◆ In England (Thursday, December 14): Tea with the Queen
- ◆ Interview Requests: Melanne thought it would be too risky since the President is not doing interviews.

Attached: President's schedule and information from State Department.

There are two roads -- I take the road less traveled by
Ireland - greater responsibility given to women -- as peace keepers

Will announce a convening of women in N. Ireland -- an
offer for elected women leaders to come together
UK + Ireland

Vital Voices - Montserrat - across pol. spectrum but found consensus -
certain issues -

Ensure the women play a critical role in the peace process

Senate school - 13 women met in Milledale office -
- common agenda
- "9 and counting" went on nat'l TV + talked about
their experiences - (Larry King)

A great need of a civil tone for our public discourse
Not to paper over our legit differences
That is my hope for the North -- still 2 troublesome
issues to resolve -

IRELAND POLITICAL OVERVIEW

Concerns about unemployment, economic development, crime, and social change were important issues in the elections that brought PM Ahern's Fianna Fail party to power in June 1997.

Bertie Ahern became Taoiseach (Prime Minister) when his conservative nationalist Fianna Fail party won 76 of the 165 seats in the Dail (Parliament). The minority coalition government includes the small, liberal Progressive Democrats (PD) and relies on the support of several independent members of the Dail. Ahern's government has survived major domestic challenges, including the resignation of his first Foreign Minister in the wake of charges of corruption and misconduct. The government's political support had been declining in recent months, but has now stabilized. Ahern remains Ireland's most popular political figure. Opposition disarray makes it unlikely that new elections will take place before the end of his term in 2002.

In 1997, the Irish elected Mary McAleese to succeed Mary Robinson as President, a ceremonial but politically symbolic office. President McAleese, who had been Fianna Fail's preferred candidate, is a distinguished professor of law from Belfast who has maintained excellent relations with both the nationalist and unionist communities in Northern Ireland.

Northern Ireland, while of long term concern to the Irish electorate, plays little role in electoral politics. All political parties seek to maintain a united front on Northern Ireland, but Fianna Fail has the reputation of being strongly pro-nationalist in its approach to the peace process. Sinn Fein currently polls some five percent support in the Republic, but its inclusion in any future Irish government will depend upon how it resolves its relationship with the IRA. PM Ahern has sought to preserve a cooperative relationship with the British government in managing the Northern Ireland peace process.

The April 1998 Good Friday Agreement established a number of North-South Institutions, including the North-South Ministerial Council in which Ministers from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland are able to discuss important cross-border issues, and the British-Irish Council. The October 2000 decision by Northern Ireland First Minister and UUP leader David Trimble to bar Sinn Fein participation in NSMC meetings until the IRA actively engaged with the Independent International Commission on Decommissioning was a blow to North-South cooperation, an important element of the GFA for the GOI. Talks are currently underway to resolve this issue.

In January 2001 Ireland will become a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council. It also served as Chairman of the Council of Europe's Council of Ministers from November 1999 until May 2000.

NORTHERN IRELAND POLITICAL OVERVIEW - NEW INSTITUTIONS

Northern Ireland, part of the United Kingdom, comprises six out of the original nine counties of the Irish province of Ulster. Within the UK, Northern Ireland had a devolved government, with a local parliament, between 1921 and 1972. In the face of civil unrest and a lack of local agreement on how the province should be governed, the British established direct rule from London by a Secretary of State (and cabinet member). The current Secretary of State is Peter Mandelson. Northern Ireland elected 18 members to the Westminster Parliament, including representatives of both unionist and nationalist parties.

The April 1998 "Good Friday" peace agreement (GFA) has dramatically altered the way in which Northern Ireland is governed. The agreement, approved by large majorities in Northern Ireland (71.2%) and in the Republic of Ireland (95%) in a May 1998 referendum, established a new legislative assembly to serve as the autonomous local government of Northern Ireland. In June 1998 elections, all major nationalist and unionist parties ran candidates for the 108-seat Assembly. As a result, Catholics and Protestants share power proportionately in the new body. On a cross-community basis, as provided under the GFA, the Assembly subsequently elected a First Minister, David Trimble, and a Deputy First Minister, Seamus Mallon. The four largest parties appointed ten other Ministers, who together make up the Northern Ireland Executive. Each minister heads a cabinet department. In October the Executive submitted a budget and government program for Northern Ireland to the Assembly, the first in some thirty years. The GFA also established a North-South Ministerial Council (NSMC), made up of ministers from Northern Ireland and from the Republic of Ireland, which has responsibilities in limited areas of island-wide policy.

In July 1999 an attempt to establish the Executive foundered because of disagreement over Sinn Fein representation and the decommissioning of paramilitary arms. This led to a three-month review of GFA implementation facilitated by George Mitchell, after which power was formally devolved to the Northern Ireland Executive and Assembly in December 1999. Continued disputes over arms decommissioning led to a suspension of local government from February to May 2000. The IRA then publicly committed to a process which would "completely and verifiably" put its arms beyond use. This November UUP leader and First Minister David Trimble, responding to critics within his own party, prohibited Sinn Fein Ministers from attending NSMC meetings until the IRA engaged further with the Independent International Commission on Decommissioning. In response the Sinn Fein Ministers have entered a legal suit against the First Minister, charging that his ban violates the GFA. Talks among the political parties and the British and Irish governments on how to resolve this impasse are underway.

IRELAND ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

The Irish economy is touted as a model -- a "Celtic Tiger" -- to the rest of Europe. Growth has averaged approximately 8% in real terms over the past six years, with low inflation and a strong increase in jobs. Last year, Ireland had a growth rate of 8.6%, the highest in the Eurozone, with the high-tech sector advancing by 14%. This year it is expected to do even better (about 10%) with a record low unemployment rate of 3.8%. However, the tight job market, together with the weak Euro and higher oil prices, have driven up inflation to about 6.8%, also the highest in Europe. The successful Irish economic mix has included (1) tight control of public spending, (2) a de facto incomes policy (now under pressure), (3) a ten percent corporate tax rate, and (4) heavy investment in education, training and the physical infrastructure.

Ireland's GNP per capita now equals 95% of the EU average. It is likely to surpass the average in the next two years. Much of this growth was fueled by very high levels of foreign investment, especially from the United States. With tax incentives and an educated and flexible workforce, Ireland has attracted 30% of all new ("Greenfield") American investment in the EU since 1996. U.S. investment is concentrated in the computer industries, pharmaceuticals, and other high-tech industries.

Like others in the Eurozone, in January 1999, Ireland adopted the Euro as its official unit of account, although the Irish pound will continue to circulate until January 2002. Also beginning in 1999, Irish monetary policy is now formulated by the European Central Bank in Frankfurt. This limits the GOI's options as it attempts to cool down the economy and reduce the recent spike in inflation. Reluctant to raise taxes, the GOI wants to reduce rising wage pressure by expanding the labor force through the return of overseas Irish nationals and by attracting non-traditional workers (senior citizens, single parents) into the workforce.

Ireland is unique among Eurozone members in that its two largest trading partners are outside the Eurozone, leaving Ireland vulnerable to consumer inflation sparked by the weak Euro. The United States is Ireland's second largest trading partner, behind only the UK. While U.S. exports to Ireland more than doubled in 1999, Ireland continues to run a trade surplus with the U.S.

In the Wall Street Journal's 2000 Index of Economic Freedom, Ireland was cited as Europe's freest economy, and ranked third world-wide, behind Hong Kong and Singapore.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2000

2:30 pm - **HOLIDAY RECEPTION**

3:30 pm

5:00 pm - **PAGEANT OF PEACE**

6:15 pm

9:00 pm DEPART Andrews Air Force Base via Air Force One en route Dublin
International Airport, Dublin, Ireland
[flight time: 5 hours, 55 minutes]
[time change: +5 hours]

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2000

7:55 am ARRIVE Dublin International Airport

8:10 am DEPART Dublin International Airport via Marine One en route
Ambassador's Residence Landing Zone
[flight time: 15 minutes] (T)

8:40 am ARRIVE Ambassador's Residence

8:45 am- **DOWN TIME**
10:15 am **AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE**

10:30 am- **MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MARY MCALEESE**
11:00 am **DRAWING ROOM, President's House**

11:25 am- **BILATERAL MEETING WITH TAOISEACH BERTIE AHERN**
12:10 pm **ROOM TBD, Taoiseach's Office**

12:30 pm- **RECEPTION HOSTED BY TAOISEACH**
2:00 pm **LOCATION TBD**

2:15 pm- **DOWN TIME**
5:00 pm **LOCATION TBD**

5:20 pm DEPART Dublin Landing Zone TBD via Marine One en route Dundalk
Landing Zone TBD
[flight time: 30 minutes]

6:30 pm- **REMARKS**
7:45 pm **COURTHOUSE SQUARE**

8:10 pm DEPART Dundalk Landing Zone TBD via Marine One en route Belfast
Landing Zone TBD
[flight time: 30 minutes] *Chamber of Commerce*

8:40 pm ARRIVE Belfast Landing Zone TBD

9:00 pm- **OTR DINNER**
10:00 pm **LOCATION TBD**

10:30 pm **ARRIVE Hilton Hotel**

BC RON HILTON HOTEL
BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2000

8:45 am- **BRIEFING**
9:15 am **ROOM TBD, Hilton Hotel**

9:45 am- **MEETINGS** *Pool Spray*
12:45 am **STORMONT**

1:15 pm- **DOWN TIME**
2:15 pm **LOCATION TBD**

2:45 pm- **SPEECH**
4:15 pm **LOCATION TBD** *Odyssey*

4:55 pm **DEPART** Belfast International Airport via Air Force One en route Brize Norton Royal Air Force Base

6:15 pm **DEPART** Brize Norton Royal Air Force Base via Marine One en route Chequers Landing Zone
[flight time: 30 minutes]

6:45 pm **ARRIVE** Chequers

DOWN FOR THE DAY AT 6:45 P.M.

BC RON CHEQUERS, ENGLAND

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2000

DOWN UNTIL 9:30 A.M.

9:30 am **DEPART** Chequers Landing Zone via Marine One en route Landing Zone
TBD
[flight time: tbd minutes]

10:30 am- **SPEECH**
12:00 pm **LOCATION TBD**

1:00 pm- **HOLD**

Warrick Blair goes to Buckingham
Pea at Buckingham Palace w/ Queen

12/05/00 at 9:00 AM

2:30 pm

3:00 pm

DEPART Brize Norton Royal Air Force Base via Air Force One en route
Andrews Air Force Base
[flight time: 7 hours, 15 minutes]
[time change: -5 hours]

6:40 pm

ARRIVE The White House

6:45 pm-

DOWN TIME

8:00 pm

RESIDENCE

8:00 pm

SPECIAL OLYMPICS EVENT