

# FOIA MARKER

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**OA/ID Number:** 21689  
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**Folder Title:**  
CO081

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
S	83	5	6	3

**THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

2000 DW 50  
ID# 413589  
PAGE 0081

DATE RECEIVED: 05/26/2000

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: ROBERT C. LINNON PH.D.

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERNS REGARDING THE PEACE PROCESS IN IRELAND AND THE ISSUES SURROUNDING THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT AND THE PROBLEMS OF THE EX-PRISONERS

		ACTION		DISPOSITION		
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
CORRESPONDENCE	JOHN WERTMAN	ORG	2000/03/09		C	2000/05/26

**ACTION COMMENTS**

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  RAA 2000/05/26

**ACTION COMMENTS**

**ACTION COMMENTS:**

**ACTION COMMENTS:**

**COMMENTS**

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: 0

MEDIA: FAX

INDIVIDUAL CODES:

REPORT CODES:

USER CODES:

**ACTION CODES:**

- A - APPROPRIATE ACTION
- C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION
- D - DRAFT RESPONSE
- F - FURNISH FACT SHEET
- I - INFO COPY/NO ACT NECESSARY
- R - DIRECT REPLY W/ COPY
- S - FOR SIGNATURE

**DISPOSITION CODES:**

- A - ANSWERED
- B - NON-SEPC-REFERRAL
- C - COMPLETED
- S - SUSPENDED

**OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:**

- TYPE RESP = INITIALS OF SIGNER
- CODE = A
- COMPLETED = DATE OF OUTGOING

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT (ROOM 72, OEOB) EXT-62590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT.



United States Department of State

*Washington, D.C. 20520*

June 20, 2000

Robert C. Linnon, Ph.D.  
National President  
Irish American Unity Foundation  
607 Southwest 8th Place  
Boynton Beach, FL 33426

Dear Dr. Linnon:

Thank you for your March 1, 2000 letter to President Clinton expressing your concern for the Northern Ireland peace process. The President has asked that I reply on his behalf.

I share your concern about the problems faced by ex-prisoners and the importance of reintegrating them into a peaceful society and commend your organization for the work it has done to resolve this issue. The recent reinstatement of devolved government in the province has been a truly momentous achievement, but there is still much to be done. Organizations such as yours provide vital support as the quest for peace continues.

The Administration will continue to support and facilitate the peace process. We will stay in touch with officials of both governments and with representatives and leaders of all political parties to encourage creativity and flexibility in the search for sustained peace and reconciliation. We will also continue to support programs such as the International Fund for Ireland (IFI) and the Irish Peace Process Cultural and Training Program (Walsh Visa Program) in order to assist in improving the economic situation within the province. Once again, thank you for your letter and your continued involvement in the Northern Ireland peace process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Gadsden".

James I. Gadsden  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
European Affairs

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 200010652  
Date June 21, 2000

FOR: Mr. Robert Bradtke  
Executive Secretary  
National Security Council  
The White House

REFERENCE:

To: POTUS

From: Robert C. Linnon, Ph.D.

Date: March 1, 2000

Subj: Reply to Dr. Lennon Letter expressing concern for Northern  
Ireland peace process.

WH Referral Dated: May 26, 2000  
NSCS ID# (if any): 413589

         The attached item was sent directly to the Department of  
State.

ACTION TAKEN:

         A draft reply is attached.

         A draft reply will be forwarded.

         A translation is attached.

XX An information copy of a direct reply is attached.

         We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited  
below.

         The Department of State has no objection to the proposed  
travel.

REMARKS:          Other (see remarks).

  
Kristie A. Kenney  
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

200010652

**THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE  
REFERRAL**

May 26, 2000

**TO:** DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**ACTION REQUESTED:** APPROPRIATE ACTION

**DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:**

**ID:** 413589

**MEDIA:** FAX, DATED MAR 01, 2000

**TO:** PRESIDENT CLINTON

**FROM:** ROBERT C. LINNON PH.D.  
NATIONAL PRESIDENT  
IRISH AMERICAN UNITY FOUNDATION  
607 SOUTHWEST 8TH PLACE  
BOYNTON BEACH, FL : FLORIDA 33426

**SUBJECT:** EXPRESSES CONCERNS REGARDING THE PEACE PROCESS IN IRELAND AND THE  
ISSUES SURROUNDING THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT AND THE PROBLEMS OF  
THE EX-PRISONERS

**PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS  
OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE UNDERSIGNED AT 456-2590.**

**RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE (OR DRAFT) TO:  
RECORDS MANAGEMENT, ROOM 72, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500**

**OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT - THE WHITE HOUSE**

200010052

**IRISH AMERICAN UNITY FOUNDATION**

607 SW 8th Place, Boynton Beach, FL 33426  
 Phone: 561-734-1767 Fax: 561-734-2060  
 E-mail: irishlinon@aol.com

Robert C. Linnon, Ph.D.  
 National President

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\*413589\*

March 1, 2000

The Hon. William J. Clinton  
 The White House  
 Washington, DC  
 Via Fax: 202-456-2461

Dear Mr. President:

It seems that every time I write to you it is to express my gratitude for your help with the Irish situation. This time is no exception. Over the years you have done so much to facilitate a just and lasting peace in Ireland and now, once again, the progress seems to have run into a major roadblock. However, there does seem to be a growing sentiment to reestablish the Assembly and the Executive while discussions will be held to resolve the decommissioning issue. I'm sure you will have input into that and I hope the parties concerned will heed your advice.

There are two other matters to which I would like to call your attention which might have a bearing on the big picture. The first is that some hardline republicans (Catholics) have expressed the view that the current crisis has opened a window of opportunity for them. I'm sure they intend to appeal to republican fence-sitters to use this situation to convince them that the Good Friday Agreement is not working and the proper solution is armed conflict. If the crisis is not resolved soon some may be convinced to join the hardliners which will just exacerbate matters.

The other issue is the ex-prisoners. They face monumental problems. They cannot work with children, they cannot work for the government, they lack marketable skills, they lack self-confidence and many need psychological counseling. With the proper assistance they could make significant contributions to the quality of life in Ireland, north and south. We in the IAUF have been in touch with leaders from both communities and have been looking for a way to offer assistance of some sort, but to no avail. In the current political vacuum in Northern Ireland many of these people might be persuaded to vent their frustrations and resort to what they might know best -- violence.

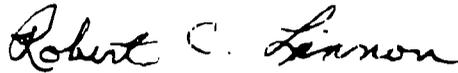
PEACE THROUGH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Barid 41358

The Good Friday Agreement states, "*The Governments continue to recognise the importance of measures to facilitate the reintegration of Prisoners into the community by providing support both prior to and after release, including assistance directed towards availing of employment opportunities re-training and/or re-skilling, and further education.*" Apparently this paragraph of the GFA is being overlooked. Mr. President, these young men and women could pose a very serious threat to peace if their needs are not addressed and if the Executive and the Assembly are not reinstated. Perhaps it is an issue in which Prime Minister Blair would be keenly interested. If any committee is constituted to explore this matter I would appreciate being included.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,



Robert C. Linnon, Ph.D.  
National President

cc: Rep. Gilman, Chairman, International Relations Committee  
Rep. Walsh, Chairman, Friends of Ireland  
Rep. Crowley, Co-chair, Ad Hoc Comm. on Irish Affairs  
Rep. Engel, Member, Adv. Comm., Ad Hoc Comm. on Irish Affairs  
Rep. King, Co-chair, Ad Hoc Comm. on Irish Affairs  
Rep. Neal, Co-chair, Ad Hoc Comm. on Irish Affairs  
Richard E. Norland, Dir. European Affairs