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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 25, 1995

Dear Bruce:

Thank you for your recent letter and your kind words about my Administration's role in fostering the peace process in Northern Ireland. I am grateful for the sound advice you have provided on this issue over the years and I hope you will continue to give us the benefit of your experience.

As we approach the first anniversary of the cease-fire, I share your view that it is crucial that the momentum of the peace process be maintained and have made that point to all sides. We continue to urge all parties to engage seriously in negotiations and to address issues constructively and substantively. All parties must show the flexibility and constructive creativity needed to bring about talks. Inflexible positions on any side are not helpful, and we believe that all parties should be prepared to demonstrate through confidence-building measures that they are committed to the peace process.

To help heal the wounds of an entire generation of people in Northern Ireland and as part of the peace process, all the parties should have the opportunity to raise issues of concern to them. Thus, I would expect all-party talks to address policing, prisoner releases, decommissioning of weapons and other issues of particular concern to communities and families.

Decommissioning is an essential component of this process and I do believe that Sinn Fein must begin to discuss the issue seriously. I welcomed Prime Minister Bruton's and Prime Minister Major's June 26 announcement of plans to develop an agreed model for decommissioning and hope it will help in encouraging renewed talks that can move the peace process forward. I understand you are traveling to Belfast this month and I will welcome your own thoughts on how best to move forward.

I assure you that my Administration will remain in close touch with the British and Irish governments and the parties in Northern Ireland, and I will continue to do everything possible to facilitate the search for peace. Again, thank you for writing on this issue that is so important to both of us.

Sincerely,

Bob Clinton

Mr. Bruce Morrison
Chair
Americans for a New Irish Agenda
200 Park Avenue South, Room 1109
New York, New York 10003

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MEMORANDUM FOR: WH STRIPPING DESK

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: TO: MORRISON, BRUCE

SOURCE: PRESIDENT

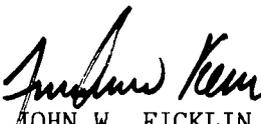
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DUE DATE:

COMMENT:


FOR
JOHN W. FICKLIN

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