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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 26, 1996

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

ANTHONY LAKE

SUBJECT:

Response to ~~Richard C.~~ ^{Robert} Linnon Concerning
Northern Ireland

Purpose

To respond to a letter from ~~Richard C.~~ ^{Robert} Linnon, President of the
Irish American Unity Foundation, regarding peace in Northern
Ireland.

Background

The letter from Mr. Linnon urges greater U.S. involvement in the
peace process in Northern Ireland.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter at Tab A.

Attachments

Tab A Response to Mr. Linnon

Tab B Incoming Correspondence

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter concerning the current obstacles facing the peace process in Northern Ireland. I always appreciate hearing your views.

As I said in my meeting with the Taoiseach December 17, our goal is inclusive, substantive talks on Northern Ireland's future. Those talks have the best chance of success if Sinn Fein is at the negotiating table, but that can only happen if the IRA restores its cease-fire.

Overcoming the impasse in the multi-party talks will require compromise and political courage on the part of Northern Ireland political leaders. We will continue to urge them to seize this historic opportunity to shape a just and lasting peace.

I wish you a joyous holiday season.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton A

Mr. Robert C. Linnon
National President
Irish American Unity Foundation
529 14th Street, N.W., Suite 837
Washington, D.C. 20045

12/26
(date)

NSC PACKAGE

AP 1

RM:

OK FOR SIGNATURE PER . TODD STERN

RETURN ALL LETTER(S) AND ORIGINAL MEMO(S) TO STERN'S OFFICE.

TSW
(Initials)

198908SS

00081

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 27, 1996

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter concerning the current obstacles facing the peace process in Northern Ireland. I always appreciate hearing your views.

As I said in my meeting with the Taoiseach December 17, our goal is inclusive, substantive talks on Northern Ireland's future. Those talks have the best chance of success if Sinn Fein is at the negotiating table, but that can only happen if the IRA restores its cease-fire.

Overcoming the impasse in the multi-party talks will require compromise and political courage on the part of Northern Ireland political leaders. We will continue to urge them to seize this historic opportunity to shape a just and lasting peace.

I wish you a joyous holiday season.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton^A

Mr. Robert C. Linnon
National President
Irish American Unity Foundation
529 14th Street, N.W., Suite 837
Washington, D.C. 20045

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ID 9607886

REFERRAL

DATE: 30 DEC 96

MEMORANDUM FOR: WH STRIPPING DESK

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: TO: LINNON, ROBERT C

SOURCE: PRESIDENT

DATE: 27 DEC 96

SUBJ: REPLY RE LTR ON PEACE PROCESS IN NORTH IRELAND

REQUIRED ACTION: FOR DISPATCH

DUE DATE: 30 DEC 96

COMMENT:

FOR


JOHN W. FICKLIN

NSC RECORDS MANAGEMENT OFFICE