

# FOIA MARKER

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May 21, 1998

Mr. Kirk O'Donnell  
Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, LLP  
Suite 400  
1333 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Kirk:

Thank you so much for your letter. I enjoyed the anecdote about former Prime Minister Callaghan.

I appreciate your words of support regarding the Northern Ireland peace accord. Senator Mitchell and Prime Ministers Ahern and Blair have been wonderful leaders in this effort, and they all deserve our gratitude. Although the path to peace is rarely easy, I believe that this agreement has the potential to ease the troubles in this beautiful part of the world. I was glad to help in whatever ways I could, and I know the progress we have made would make Tip truly proud.

Sincerely,

**BILL CLINTON** A

BC/KMB/RSM/DC/bws-pw-bws  
(4.odonnell.k)

(Corres. #3939498)

980522



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 22, 1998

Thomas R. Donahue  
Seventh Floor  
1717 K Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20006

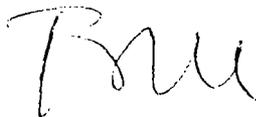
Dear Tom:

Thanks so much for your thoughtful note. It was good to hear from you.

I appreciate your words of support regarding the Northern Ireland peace accord. I was glad to help in whatever ways I could and will continue to be available. Senator Mitchell and Prime Ministers Ahern and Blair have been wonderful leaders in this effort, and they deserve our gratitude.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,



**DRAFT OF BC LETTER**

INITIALS: BC / kmb *1 PM 4/29*

DOCUMENT TITLE: /slr/p/odonnell.k.kb

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: Apr 28 1998 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 3939498

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CC:

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:  
Mr. Kirk O'Donnell &  
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Washington, D.C. 20036

APPROVAL/ENCLOSURES/SPECIAL INSTR:  
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Dear Kirk:

Thank you so much for your letter. I enjoyed the anecdote about former Prime Minister Callaghan.

I appreciate your words of support regarding the Northern Ireland peace accord. I was glad to help in whatever ways I could and will continue to be available. Senator Mitchell and Prime Ministers Ahern and Blair have been wonderful leaders in this effort, and they <sup>all</sup> deserve our gratitude. Although the path to peace is rarely easy, I believe that the agreement reached has the potential to bring real calm and mutual respect to a beautiful, but very troubled part of our world.

Again, thank you for your encouragement. I know the progress we have made since ~~Tip's death~~ on the Northern Ireland question would make ~~him~~ <sup>Tip</sup> truly proud.

APR 29 1998

260427

AKIN, GUMP, STRAUSS, HAUER & FELD, L.L.P.

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PHILADELPHIA  
SAN ANTONIO

April 10, 1998

The Honorable William J. Clinton  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Nearly twenty years ago I happened upon a recently defeated Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, "Sunny" Jim Callaghan walking along Connecticut Avenue with his son-in-law Peter Jay. I introduced myself and recalled a meeting he had with my former boss 'Tip' O'Neill at Downing Street a few months before. Mr. Callaghan was very cordial but as we parted he said, "tell 'Tip' the lady won't make any progress on his problem."

He was talking about Mrs. Thatcher and Northern Ireland. Callaghan was wrong, Mrs. Thatcher recognized the legitimacy of the American Dimension to the problem of Northern Ireland and went on to sign the Anglo-Irish accord.

But progress towards a solution of a problem is not a solution particularly when lives are being lost. You took the great gamble for peace in Northern Ireland and you have succeeded. I know this success will have its trials but I believe it will be enduring as will your achievement in bringing it about.

Since Jimmy Carter agreed with the Four Horsemen O'Neill, Kennedy, Moynihan and Carey in 1977 and made Northern Ireland a Presidential priority, successive Presidents have encouraged creative approaches to the crisis in Northern Ireland but none spent more of his political capital than you have in pursuit of a solution to this tragic conflict.

AKIN, GUMP, STRAUSS, HAUER & FELD, L.L.P.

Fortunately John Hume's interest and optimism were matched by a President who found a way forward in finding an answer to the "damnable question". I know that you have given 'Tip' reason to smile as he looks down on us and you have given the people of Northern Ireland a future so very different and so much better than they could have hoped for when this decade began.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kirk O'Donnell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Kirk O'Donnell