

# FOIA MARKER

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**Subseries:**

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**OA/ID Number:** 14037  
**Scan ID:** 262986SS  
**Document Number:**

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**Folder Title:**  
SP300

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RECEIVED AT THE WHITE HOUSE  
4-10-98

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON**  
**REMARKS ON NORTHERN IRELAND**  
**APRIL 10, 1998**

—  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

LUKE 1:79

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN  
4-10-98

~~TO SHINE ON THOSE LIVING  
IN DARKNESS AND IN THE  
SHADOW OF DEATH, TO GUIDE  
OUR FEET INTO THE PATH  
OF PEACE~~

to give light to them  
that sit in darkness  
t in the shadow of death  
to guide our feet into  
the way of peace—

4-10-98

~~I was extremely pleased to hear the great news from~~  
~~Belfast.~~ After a 30-year winter of sectarian violence,  
Northern Ireland today has the promise of a  
springtime of peace.

The agreement that has emerged from the Northern  
Ireland peace talks opens the way for the people there  
to build a society based on enduring peace, justice and  
equality. The vision and commitment of the  
participants in the talks has made real the prayers for  
peace on both sides of the Atlantic – and both sides of  
the Peace Line.

**All friends of Ireland and Northern Ireland know that the task of making the peace endure will be difficult.**

**The path of peace is never easy. But the parties have made courageous decisions. They have chosen hope over hate; they have put the promise of the future ahead of the poison of the past – and in so doing have written a new chapter in their history, a chapter of resolute courage that inspires us all.**

**In the days to come, there may be those who will try to undermine this great achievement, not only with words but perhaps also with violence.**

All of the parties – and all of us -- must stand shoulder

to shoulder to defy the appeal of extremists.

*for they the people will have their  
chance to vote*

*On this*

~~In the early hours of Good Friday, we give thanks for~~

the work of Prime Minister Ahern, Prime Minister

Blair, Senator George Mitchell, and especially the

*also thank PIRA before the launch*  
leaders of the parties. They have created the best *monumental  
achievement*

chance for peace in a generation. ~~We must do all we~~

*for they the people of NI will have the  
chance to seize it* ~~can to build on the hope of today with perseverance,~~  
*to secure for their  
children*

~~patience and faith so the people of Ireland and~~

*At this crucial stage, <sup>with</sup> ~~Northern Ireland can enjoy the blessing promised in~~  
*also followed a direction**

*of love, to let their light "shine"*

the Psalm: "The Lord will give strength unto his

people; the Lord will bless his people with peace."