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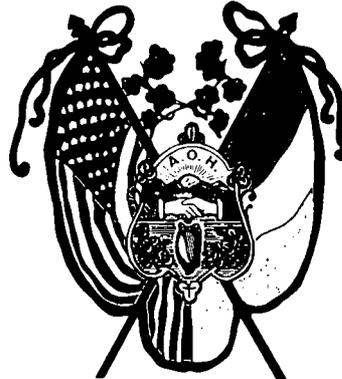
NATIONAL BOARD

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OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL
VICE PRESIDENT
and
1996 NATIONAL
CONVENTION CHAIRMAN



THOMAS E. GILLIGAN
1301 S.W. 26th Avenue
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ANCIENT ORDER
OF HIBERNIANS IN AMERICA
INCORPORATED

Organized in New York City, May 4, 1836

President William J. Clinton
White House
Washington, DC 20500

July 13, 1996

Dear President Clinton:

I am writing to you to express my concern, and that of our Nationalist membership, with the current volatile situation in Northern Ireland. The recent decision by the British Government to allow the Orange Order to march through predominately Catholic areas can only be characterized as a decision of that governments complete abandonment of the delicate peace process that you have worked so hard to make a success.

This decision can only be called a political decision and an attempt to appease a small group and further fan the fires of violence. It is the first responsibility of any government to protect all it's citizens rights, not just a small segment of them. This was clearly a terrible deception committed upon those seeking peace and justice, and is yet another clear indication that the British government is really not sincere in their efforts to make the peace process work.

We of the A.O.H. recognize that you are the first President to take a sincere interest in Northern Ireland and because of your efforts a process was initiated to find a just and lasting peace, and for that this grand and noble Order is most appreciative. Please do not lose faith, we are solidly behind you, instead have the continued courage to issue a strong statement condemning the decision that has led to a complete deterioration of the process and once again call on the British Government to allow all parties to sit at the table without precondition. Let us never lose sight of the prize we are all seeking, peace with justice in Northern Ireland.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Gilligan
Thomas E. Gilligan

"Ireland Unfree Shall Never Be At Peace."

NATIONAL BOARD

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TRACKING SHEET

P-527

	Date	Initial
Received by PLM	<u>7/19</u>	<u>CAC</u>
Draft Written	_____	_____
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