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THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JANUARY 22, 1998

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE RICHARD E. NEAL

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING THE LASTING
PEACE IN IRELAND

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION		
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
JOHN HILLEY		ORG	98/01/06		C	98/01/06
SAMUEL R. "SANDY" BERGER	REFERRAL NOTE:	RSA	98/01/06			
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COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1230 _____
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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION          *OUTGOING          *
*                      *                      *CORRESPONDENCE:  *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION *A-ANSWERED          *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM      *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL *          OF SIGNER   *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE     *C-COMPLETED        *          CODE = A   *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET *S-SUSPENDED        *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*          *          OUTGOING  *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *          *          *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE      *          *          *
*X-INTERIM REPLY      *          *          *
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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

RICHARD E. NEAL
SECOND DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

WHIP AT-LARGE



COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SECURITY

#249837

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

December 24, 1997

JAN 5 PM 2:36

President William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for the efforts you have made in demonstrating your support for a lasting peace in Ireland.

As you are well aware, we are now making significant strides in the Irish peace process and it is important that we all continue to support this most important initiative.

I would like to bring to your attention the cases of Kevin Artt, Terence Kirby and Pol Brennan, three Irishmen who are currently incarcerated in California pending extradition proceedings. For the past several years these men, who all have family in the United States, have been living peaceful and productive lives here in the United States.

The district court originally allowed the three men to remain out on bail for over a year and a half pending their extradition hearing. They obeyed all the conditions of bail. The ninth Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the grant of bail, noting that they were "convinced that a grant of bail will contribute more to promoting harmony between the supporters of the cause of the Catholics in Northern Ireland and those whose interests are otherwise than would a denial of bail..."

Following their extradition hearing, the district court ordered the men to be extradited and revoked their bail. The issue of bail on appeal is currently pending before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

The granting of bail on appeal to Kevin Artt, Terence Kirby and Pol Brennan would be viewed as an important confidence-building measure. Both the Irish government and Sinn Fein have submitted requests for bail to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. I believe that if the British government were to make a similar submission bail would be granted.

I therefore ask that you request that the British government drop its opposition to bail as an appropriate and humane gesture that will have a strongly positive impact on the Irish peace process.

Sincerely,

RICHARD E. NEAL
Member of Congress

REN/nsm

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