

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	re: Comments (7 pages)	04/25/1996	P1/b(1)
002. cable	re: Northern Ireland: Londonderry (4 pages)	04/25/1996	P1/b(1)
003. cable	re: Northern Ireland: Decommissioning and Mitchell (4 pages)	04/29/1996	P1/b(1)
004. cable	re: Assessment (8 pages)	05/02/1996	P1/b(1)
005. cable	re: Northern Ireland: More (4 pages)	05/07/1996	P1/b(1)
006. cable	re: Northern Ireland: Trimble Letter to the President (4 pages)	05/08/1996	P1/b(1)
007. cable	re: Northern Ireland Peace Process: Ambassador's May 8 (4 pages)	05/08/1996	P1/b(1)
008. cable	re: Visa Application. [8 USC §1202(f)] (4 pages)	05/08/1996	P3/b(3), P6/b(6)
009. cable	re: Northern Ireland Peace Process: Ambassador's May 8 (4 pages)	05/09/1996	P1/b(1)
010. cable	re: Northern Ireland: PM's Aide (4 pages)	05/10/1996	P1/b(1)
011. cable	re: Ireland's Vision (4 pages)	05/15/1996	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
 NSC Cables
 Jan 1995-Dec 1996 ([Peace Process, Irish, Ireland, Stormont])
 OA/Box Number: 510000

FOLDER TITLE:

[04/25/1996-05/15/1996]

2006-1990-F

vz1650

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUEHDLA2475 1361303-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 151303Z MAY 96
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
OSRI: RUEHDL
DTG: 151303Z MAY 96
ORIG: AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0198
INFO: RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 3945
RUEHBL/AMCONSUL BELFAST 4026
SUBJ: NORTHERN IRELAND WOMEN POLITICAL CANDIDATES
DISCUSS IMPACT OF MAY 30TH ELECTIONS

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 DUBLIN 002475

NSC FOR SODERBERG AND PETERS

STATE ALSO FOR S/IR AND G

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KWMN, PREL, PGOV, UK, EI

SUBJECT: NORTHERN IRELAND WOMEN POLITICAL CANDIDATES
DISCUSS IMPACT OF MAY 30TH ELECTIONS

1. SUMMARY: WOMEN CANDIDATES RUNNING IN THE MAY 30TH ELECTIONS IN NORTHERN IRELAND ARE ASKING FOR SUPPORT FROM THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN THE REPUBLIC (AND IN THE U.S.). THEY ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE POTENTIALLY POLARIZING EFFECT OF THE UPCOMING ELECTIONS. COOPERATION BETWEEN WOMEN'S GROUPS IN THE REPUBLIC AND NORTHERN IRELAND IS INCREASING, AND DESERVES U.S. ATTENTION AND SUPPORT. END SUMMARY.

2. ARECEPTION CO-HOSTED BY THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S COUNCIL OF IRELAND WAS HELD AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE ON MAY 13, IN HONOR OF MARYLAND LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR KATHLEEN KENNEDY TOWNSEND. IN ADDITION TO ABOUT 50 WOMEN POLITICAL AND COMMUNITY GROUP LEADERS FROM THE REPUBLIC, A DOZEN OR MORE POLITICALLY ACTIVE WOMEN FROM NORTHERN IRELAND ATTENDED. THESE INCLUDED TWO OR THREE CANDIDATES FROM THE NEWLY-FORMED WOMEN'S COALITION THAT IS RUNNING IN THE MAY 30TH ELECTIONS, WHICH WILL SELECT THE POOL FROM WHICH NEGOTIATORS WILL BE CHOSEN FOR ALL-PARTY PEACE TALKS ON THE NORTHERN IRELAND CONFLICT SCHEDULED TO BEGIN JUNE 10.

LT.-GOVERNOR TOWNSEND

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3. LT.-GOV. TOWNSEND DELIVERED REMARKS ON THE VALUE OF ENCOURAGING MORE WOMEN TO RUN FOR PUBLIC OFFICE AND PLAY A GREATER ROLE IN POLITICAL LIFE, DESPITE THE CHALLENGES INVOLVED. SHE DESCRIBED THE GROWING IMPACT THAT THE "GENDER GAP" IS HAVING ON AMERICAN POLITICS. SHE ANSWERED QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON FUNDRAISING (E.G., EMILY'S LIST) AND ON OTHER ISSUES DRAWING ON HER BACKGROUND IN ADMINISTERING THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. (THE DEATH PENALTY WAS A HOT TOPIC, WITH MOST IN THE AUDIENCE STRONGLY OPPOSED.)

NATIONAL WOMEN'S COUNCIL OF IRELAND

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4. NATIONAL WOMEN'S COUNCIL OF IRELAND CHAIRWOMAN NOREEN BYRNE RESPONDED TO THE LT.-GOVERNOR'S REMARKS, NOTING THAT WOMEN "STILL REMAIN GROSSLY UNDERREPRESENTED" IN IRISH AND EUROPEAN POLITICAL LIFE. SHE CALLED ON IRISH POLITICAL PARTIES TO COMMIT TO TARGETS FOR THE NEXT TWO OR THREE GENERAL ELECTIONS "SO THAT BY 2010 WE HAVE AT LEAST 40:60 GENDER BALANCE AS A MINIMUM." SHE THANKED AMBASSADOR SMITH FOR PROVIDING THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE AS "THE SETTING FOR IMPORTANT DEBATE ABOUT THE ROLE OF WOMEN ON BOTH PARTS OF THIS ISLAND."

5. CITING THE MAY 30TH ELECTIONS IN NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE ALL-PARTY TALKS SET TO FOLLOW SOON THEREAFTER, BYRNE SAID "WOMEN SIMPLY HAVE TO BE THERE AND WHETHER THEY COME THROUGH THE EXISTING PARTY STRUCTURES OR THE RECENTLY FORMED NORTHERN IRELAND WOMEN'S COALITION, THEIR VOICES HAVE TO BE HEARD AT THE TABLE, THEIR INFLUENCE BROUGHT TO BEAR IN NEGOTIATION." SHE CALLED THE FORMATION OF THE WOMEN'S COALITION "A MEASURE OF THE FRUSTRATION AT THE VERY SLOW RATE OF PROGRESS TOWARD GREATER EQUITY FROM WITHIN POLITICAL PARTIES," AND SAID MANY IN THE SOUTH "WILL WATCH WITH INTEREST TO SEE HOW THE NORTHERN IRELAND WOMEN'S COALITION AFFECTS THE POLITICAL LANDSCAPE."

NORTHERN IRELAND WOMEN'S COALITION

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6. TWO THEMES WERE HIGHLIGHTED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WOMEN'S COALITION. FIRST, THEIR DESPERATE NEED FOR FUNDS TO CAMPAIGN IN THE MAY 30TH ELECTIONS. THEY MADE CLEAR THEY WILL BE SEEKING SUPPORT FROM GROUPS IN THE REPUBLIC AS WELL AS IN NORTHERN IRELAND, AND ASKED ABOUT RESOURCES AND TRAINING THAT MIGHT BE AVAILABLE THROUGH SUCH AMERICAN GROUPS AS NDI AND IRI. SECOND, THEY EXPRESSED DEEP RESERVATIONS ABOUT WHAT THEY CALLED THE "POTENTIALLY POLARIZING" IMPACT OF THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN

N. IN THE "CLIMATE OF FEAR" THAT IS BEING CREATED, PARTICULARLY WITH THE TRADITIONAL MARCHING SEASON NOW UNDERWAY, THE TENDENCY WOULD BE FOR VOTERS TO FALL BACK INTO TRADITIONAL VOTING PATTERNS. NEW GROUPS, SUCH AS THE WOMEN'S COALITION, WOULD PROBABLY

NOT FARE WELL AS VOTERS ARE "FORCED" TO DEFINE
THEMSELVES EITHER IN TERMS OF THEIR FAMILIAR POLITICAL
IDENTITY OR SOMETHING NEW AND UNTRIED.

NORTH-SOUTH VENTURES

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NSC FOR SODERBERG AND PETERS

STATE ALSO FOR S/IR AND G

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KWMN, PREL, PGOV, UK, EI

SUBJECT: NORTHERN IRELAND WOMEN POLITICAL CANDIDATES

DISCUSS IMPACT OF MAY 30TH ELECTIONS

7. NOREEN BYRNE (NWCI AND INEZ MCCORMACK (UNISON
NORTHERN IRELAND), ALONG WITH MARIE MULHOLLAND (WOMEN'S
SUPPORT NETWORK, BELFAST) AND JOANNA VANCE (WOMEN IN
POLITICS, BELFAST) BRIEFED THE AMBASSADOR ON TWO
PROJECTS THEY ARE JOINTLY WORKING ON TO PROMOTE THE
ROLE OF WOMEN IN PUBLIC LIFE. FIRST, THEY INDICATED
THAT FUNDING FROM THE NORTHERN IRELAND VOLUNTARY TRUST
AND THE EU IS LIKELY TO BE AVAILABLE TO STAGE A SERIES
OF WORKSHOPS/FORA IN BELFAST, DERRY, FERMANAGH AND IN
THE REPUBLIC AIMED AT TRAINING WOMEN IN COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT GROUPS ON HOW TO APPLY "EQUALITY-PROOFING"
AND EQUAL TREATMENT LAWS AND REGULATIONS. THE
WORKSHOPS ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE THIS FALL,
CULMINATING IN A JOINT NORTH/SOUTH CONFERENCE. THEY
EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE AMBASSADOR'S ROLE IN
SERVING AS A CATALYST FOR THIS EFFORT.

8. THE SECOND PROJECT IS A NORTH/SOUTH EDUCATION
PROGRAM CALLED POLITICALLY ORGANIZED WOMEN EDUCATING
FOR RECONCILIATION ("POWER"). A COOPERATIVE VENTURE
INVOLVING THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S COUNCIL OF IRELAND, THE
WOMEN'S SUPPORT NETWORK, UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER AND
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN, THE AIM IS TO DEVELOP A
COLLEGE COURSE ON WOMEN AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT. THE
ORGANIZERS INTEND TO MAKE THIS THE FIRST COLLEGE
PROGRAM TO RECEIVE EQUAL ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION IN BOTH
THE NORTH AND SOUTH. THROUGH THE COURSE, THEY HOPE TO
SPOT POTENTIAL WOMEN LEADERS AND DEVELOP STRATEGIES FOR
EMPOWERING WOMEN.

COMMENT

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9. WHILE IT WOULD OBVIOUSLY NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE U.S TO BECOME DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN SUPPORT OF ANY PARTICULAR POLITICAL GROUPING IN THE MAY 30TH ELECTIONS IN NORTHERN IRELAND, WE SHOULD CONSIDER OVER THE LONGER TERM HOW TO RESPOND TO THE VERY LEGITIMATE REQUEST FROM NASCENT WOMEN'S POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE REPUBLIC AND IN THE NORTH FOR GENERAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING IN THE AREA OF POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS. FOR THE TIME BEING, WE WILL STEER SUCH REQUESTS IN TH DIRECTION OF NDI AND IRI. SMITH
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