

FOIA MARKER

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Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records
Subgroup/Office of Origin: Records Management - SUBJECT FILE
Series/Staff Member:
Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 21689
Scan ID: 142426
Document Number:

Folder Title:
CO081

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
S	83	5	6	3

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. fax	Dan Burkhardt to Nancy Hernreich; RE: Phone number [partial] (1 page)	12/01/1995	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
WHORM-Subject File-General
CO081
OA/Box Number: 21689

FOLDER TITLE:

142426

2006-1990-F
db2772

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]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

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]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

ME

142426
CO081

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 4, 1995

Dear Madam President:

It was an honor for me to come to Dublin and a pleasure to meet with you. I am grateful for the very warm welcome we received upon our arrival.

I applaud the work of your government and the government of Prime Minister Major toward peace in Northern Ireland. The twin-track process to which Prime Minister Bruton and Prime Minister Major have agreed is an encouraging development in your efforts to achieve a lasting political settlement, and I assure you that the United States supports your search for peace.

Thank you for the beautiful ceramic piece and table linens. Mrs. Clinton and I appreciate your kindness and generosity and send our best wishes to you and Mr. Robinson.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton,

*I look forward
to seeing you here
next year - It was
a wonderful visit*

Her Excellency
Mary B. Robinson
President of Ireland
Dublin

951206

December 4, 1995

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Sincerely,

BILL CLINTON

Her Excellency
Mary B. Robinson
President of Ireland
Dublin

BC/DWB/JRS/JAD/ws-jfc (Corres. #2589041)
(11.robinson.mb)
cc: WH Gifts

DISPATCH THROUGH STATE
Xeroxed copy of personally signed original to NH
through Todd Stern

CLEAR THRU TODD STERN

PRESIDENT TO SIGN

December 4, 1995

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December 1, 1995

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Mary B. Robinson
President of Ireland
Dublin

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TRANSMISSION REPORT

THIS DOCUMENT (REDUCED SAMPLE ABOVE)
WAS SENT

**** COUNT ****
1

*** SEND ***

NO	REMOTE STATION I. D.	START TIME	DURATION	#PAGES	COMMENT
1		12- 1-95 5:56PM	0'48"	1	

TOTAL 0:00'48" 1

December 1, 1995

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DISPATCH THROUGH STATE
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PRESIDENT TO SIGN

Nancy wants
this faxed
tonight per
Jack shock (in
Corresp).
has been
cleared thru
NSC.



GIFT UNIT-DRAFT OF BC LETTER

DWB

INITIALS: BC / nam /

DOCUMENT TITLE: /gifts/draft/robinson.mary.nam

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: Dec 01 1995 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 2589041

CLEAR WITH:

WHCC:

CC: WH Gifts

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:

Her Excellency Mary B. Robinson
President of Ireland
Dublin,

ENCLOSURES AND SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Dispatch thru State Dept.
BC.SIG

Dear Madam President:

It was an honor for me to come to Dublin and ^a ~~my~~ pleasure to meet with you. I am grateful for the ^{very} ~~impressive~~ and warm welcome we received upon our arrival.

I ~~want to~~ ^{to which} applaud the work of your government and the government of Prime Minister Major toward peace in Northern Ireland. The twin-track process ^{have agreed} ~~agreed to by~~ Prime Minister Bruton and Prime Minister Major ^{is} an encouraging development in your efforts to achieve a lasting political settlement, ^{and} I ~~want to~~ assure you that the United States supports your search for peace.

Thank you for the beautiful ceramic piece, table linens, and silver dish. Mrs. Clinton and I ^{appreciate} ~~are grateful~~ for your kindness and generosity and send our best wishes to you and Mr. Robinson.

Sincerely,

 Straight to
Assure

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

GIFT UNIT CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SHEET

Date gift presented	<u>12/1/95</u>
Date gift received in Gift Unit	<u>12/1/95</u>
Date contact made with State Dept regarding salutation and address	<u>per State Dept memo</u>
Date information received from State Department	_____
Date gift draft written	<u>12/1/95</u>
Date of internal editing	<u>12/1/95 DWS</u>
Date sent to NSC for clearance	<u>12/1/95 DWS</u>
Date returned from NSC	_____
Date sent to editing/ Presidential support/FLO office	_____
Editing Date	_____
Typing Date	_____
Final Approval	_____

To ~~Peters~~ Schmidt

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DATE:

12/1/95

TO:

JOHN FICKLIN
RECORDS MANAGEMENT
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

FROM:

WHITE HOUSE GIFTS

ATTN:

Chris George or Tom Sculimbrene

Please review the attached Presidential letter and indicate your recommendation by initialling below.

Concur as is: JS

Concur with changes: _____

Alternate response: _____

Return form and attachment to White House Gifts, Room 457 OEOB as soon as possible.

8659 42

WHITE HOUSE GIFT REGISTER

GIFT INTENDED FOR

President

Both/All

First Lady

Chelsea

DONOR INFORMATION

Name: President Mary Robinson

Address: Aras an Uachtarain, Phoenix Park

Dublin 8, Republic of Ireland Phone: _____

PRESENTATION

Date: Dec. 1, 1995 Event: President's Visit to Ireland

Handed to President Other Method protocol exchange

Gift Description: Ceramic piece from The Design Yard.

Send Gift and Register to OEOB, Room 457 x7133

WHITE HOUSE GIFT REGISTER

GIFT INTENDED FOR

President Both/All First Lady Chelsea

DONOR INFORMATION

Name: Mary Robinson, President of IrelandAddress: Aras an Uachtaraínn Phoenix ParkDublin 8, Repub. of Ireland Phone: _____

PRESENTATION

Date: Dec. 1, 1995 Event: President + First Lady's Visit to IrelandHanded to President Other Method Protocol exchangeGift Description: Irish damask tablecloth and napkins.

Send Gift and Register to OEOB, Room 457 x7133

WHITE HOUSE GIFT REGISTER

GIFT INTENDED FOR

President

Both/All

First Lady

Chelsea

DONOR INFORMATION

Name: President Mary Robinson

Address: Aras an Uachtaraire, Phoenix Park
Dublin 8, Repub. of Ireland Phone: _____

PRESENTATION

Date: Dec. 1, 1995 Event: President and First Lady's Visit to Ireland

Handed to President Other Method protocol exchange

Gift Description: Silver Strawberry dish

Send Gift and Register to OEGB, Room 457 x7133



Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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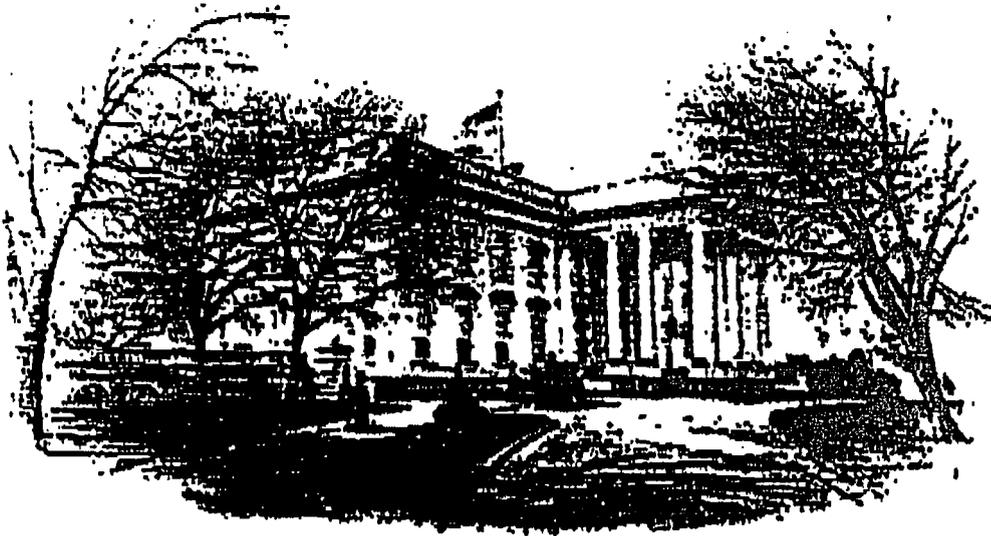
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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

Number of pages including cover 2

Date 12/1/95

To Nancy Herrreich

FAX Number _____

Comments Attached is the acknowledgement letter to President Robinson. It has been cleared through all the proper channels. The NSC tells me that the letter to PM Major will not be cleared through that shop until Monday. If you need to reach me at home, my number is P6/b(6) [007]

From Dan Blackhart

December 1, 1995

Dear Madam President:

It was an honor for me to come to Dublin and a pleasure to meet with you. I am grateful for the very warm welcome we received upon our arrival.

I applaud the work of your government and the government of Prime Minister Major toward peace in Northern Ireland. The twin-track process to which Prime Minister Bruton and Prime Minister Major have agreed is an encouraging development in your efforts to achieve a lasting political settlement, and I assure you that the United States supports your search for peace.

Thank you for the beautiful ceramic piece, table linens, and silver dish. Mrs. Clinton and I appreciate your kindness and generosity and send our best wishes to you and Mr. Robinson.

Sincerely,

Her Excellency
Mary B. Robinson
President of Ireland
Dublin

~~DC/DWB/SRE/JAD/ms (Corres #2509041)~~

~~(11-robinson.mb)~~
~~cc: WH Gifts~~

~~DISPATCH THROUGH STATE~~

~~Xeroxed copy of personally signed original to WH
through Todd Stern~~

~~CLEAR THRU TODD STERN~~

~~PRESIDENT TO SIGN~~

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(London, England)

For Immediate Release

November 29, 1995

PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE PRESIDENT
AND PRIME MINISTER MAJOR

10 Downing Street
London, England

11:20 A.M. (L)

PRIME MINISTER MAJOR: Can I, firstly, welcome the President here to London. I'm delighted he's been able to come in what is, I know for him, an extremely busy time. And he and Mrs. Clinton are extremely welcome guests here.

The President's come to London fresh from explaining to Congress and the American people his plans for a very large United States contribution to the peace implementation force in Bosnia. Bosnia is, and has been for some years, a shared responsibility. British troops have been there now for something over three years, in numbers ranging up to 8,000 at a time. And both of our countries have made huge contributions to the international aid effort.

What I think we now need to do is to carry the remarkable Dayton agreements through to a successful conclusion. Dayton was a very hard-won and hugely important breakthrough by the United States and her Contact Group partners. And for the first time in the many discussions over the years that the President and I have had on Bosnia, we can look this morning at a realistic prospect of a real and lasting peace in Bosnia.

But it is still a fragile prospect, and we need to make sure that it doesn't in some fashion just slip away from us. And that is why we both agree that it's vital to deploy a genuinely effective implementation force to Bosnia as soon as the peace agreements come into effect. I very much welcome the President's intention to contribute a large force to that particular cause.

I can certainly confirm that we shall do the same. We intend to make a large contribution; around 13,000 troops will be the size of the British contribution to that force. They will find themselves working in the future, as so many times in the past, with their American colleagues in a common endeavor. And I believe it's an endeavor of immense importance to the future of Bosnia and for many places beyond it. And I look forward to the peace implementation conference in London in a couple of weeks time, which will work on the very important civil aspects of that peace agreement

The President as I this morning have also had the opportunity of talking about Northern Ireland and about the twin track initiative that I launched yesterday with the Irish Prime Minister. I am delighted that the President will tomorrow become the first serving United States President to visit Northern Ireland. I have no doubt that that will give a huge encouragement to the people in Northern Ireland who have been working for peace. And I'm sure that it will boost the very valuable help that George Mitchell will be giving us in his work, for he has generously agreed to undertake the work as chairman of the new body to look at the question of decommissioning.

George Mitchell, of course, is no stranger to the situation in Northern Ireland, and over the years has given us very great help in promoting investment in Northern Ireland's economy. So I think the chairmanship of the international body is in very good hands. And I'm very grateful to Senator Mitchell for undertaking it, and for the President for permitting that.

I had the opportunity with the President this morning of discussing the present situation in Northern Ireland. What I hope people will see with his visit there in a day or so is the changed life in Northern Ireland. For far too long, the world has been very familiar with the negative side of Northern Ireland. I think the President's visit will enable him and his colleagues to see how very dramatically life has changed there over the past 15 months. And we look forward to carrying that further.

We had the opportunity of discussing a number of other matters, but I think in the limited time available, I won't touch upon those at the moment, but I will invite the President to say a few words.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Prime Minister. This is my sixth trip to Europe as President, and the latest of the many, many sessions I have had with Prime Minister Major. Europe and the United States have unbreakable ties, but the United Kingdom and the United States enjoy a unique and enduring relationship.

Because of our values and the work we have done together over the last 50 years, the things we stand for are, more and more, becoming widely accepted all around the world. Today, we discussed our ongoing efforts to reinforce our partnership, to reduce the threat of weapons of mass destruction, to combat terrorism, international crime and drug-trafficking, and to advance the global march of peace. And, of course, we mostly discussed Northern Ireland and Bosnia.

Let me begin by just congratulating the Prime Minister on the important initiative that he and Prime Minister Bruton announced yesterday to advance the process of peace in Northern Ireland.

The twin-track initiative will establish an international body to address arms decommissioning and at the same time, will initiate preliminary political talks in which all parties will be invited to participate. This is an opportunity for them to begin a dialogue in which all views are represented and all voices are heard.

I cannot say enough to the British people how much I appreciate and admire the Prime Minister in taking this kind of risk for peace. This was not an easy action for him to take, not an easy action for Prime Minister Bruton to take. Very often, people who take risks for peace are not appreciated for doing so. But we in the United States appreciate this work and hope very much that it will prove fruitful.

Tomorrow, I will visit a Northern Ireland that is closer to true peace than at any time in a generation. And the risks that have been taken to date by the Prime Minister and by the Irish Prime Minister and his predecessor are a big reason why.

The United Kingdom has also taken extraordinary risks for peace in Bosnia. The United States deeply appreciates all this country has done to end the suffering in Bosnia -- your brave soldiers who risked their lives as part of UNPROFOR, your countless humanitarian relief efforts to aid the people of that war-torn land, your diplomatic and military strength as members of the Contact Group and NATO.

Now the people of Bosnia have made a commitment to peace, and we have to do our part to help it succeed. That means participating in NATO's implementation force, not to fight a war in Bosnia but to help secure a peace. It means implementing the arms controls provisions of that agreement while ensuring that the Bosnian Federation has the means to defend itself once NATO withdraws. And it means supporting the reconstruction in Bosnia so that all the people there can share in the benefits of peace.

If we can secure the peace in Bosnia -- and I am convinced that we can and will -- that will bring us a step closer to the goal of a free, peaceful and undivided Europe.

The Prime Minister and I discussed developments in Russia, including the upcoming parliamentary elections and agreed that fuller integration of Russia and Europe remains a key goal that both of us share. We also reaffirmed our joint determination to open NATO to new membership in a gradual and open way.

I also welcome the priority the United Kingdom has given to strengthening the Atlantic community. This weekend at the summit meeting between the United States and the European Union in Madrid, I hope we can agree on a vigorous Atlantic agenda that we can both work to implement.

Let me just close by saying that we live in a time of remarkable opportunity for peace and prosperity, for open markets and open societies, for human dignity and human decency. Together the United States and the United Kingdom have helped to shape this hopeful moment in our history. We have some more work to do. We just talked about two of our biggest challenges. But I am confident that our people are up to those challenges and that that work will be done.

PRIME MINISTER MAJOR: Now, the President has a speech to delivery in Parliament not very long ahead, but we can take just a few questions.

Yes, the lady in the red scarf.

Q President Clinton, could you let us know if one of the things you discussed was arming and training the Bosnian military, and how that will work as part of this peace process?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, we discussed that, but in our roles as a part of the NATO mission, neither the NATO forces of the United States or the United Kingdom will be involved in that. There is an agreement among the parties that they will work for six months to achieve an arms control agreement; that they will do everything they can to agree on a fair way to reduce the number of arms in Bosnia; that if they fail to reach agreement there will be a 25-percent reduction by all the parties in the region, preserving roughly the ratio of arms that exist now between Serbia, Croatia and Bosnia, but at a smaller level; and that within Bosnia proper, the Bosnian Federation will have a roughly two to one ratio of arms; and that that will have to be supplied in terms of equipment and training by third parties, which we are confident will occur.

Q Mr. President, do you accept the British government's position that there must be some giving up of arms by the paramilitaries, and especially by Sinn Fein IRA, before all party talks can begin?

THE PRESIDENT: I accept the British government's position announced yesterday in the twin tracks. That is, I believe the agreement represented -- or reflected in what Prime Minister Bruton and Prime Minister Major announced yesterday has set forth a framework within which these differences of opinion can be resolved. And I hope the framework will be accepted by all the parties.

My answer to you, sir, is that the United States, whether it's in the Middle East or Bosnia or in Northern Ireland, has tried to support a reasonable peace process, not to dictate the terms or make the decisions. The twin-track process is a reasonable peace process. And it is not for us to get into the details of the judgment that the countries and the parties will have to make.

PRIME MINISTER MAJOR: Yes, Helen.

Q What broke the camel's back on this? You were arguing for so long on this one issue. Was there one thing that turned the tide, one catalyst?

PRIME MINISTER MAJOR: Well, there were a whole range of points we've been discussing over the last few days. It wasn't just the decommissioning issue. There were a range of other issues as well. And I think time wore away the difference -- time and patience on both sides.

I think the number of meetings that there have been over the last few weeks, the numbers of discussions I've had with John Bruton -- I've absolutely no doubt both our telephone bills will be astronomical, but we think it's worthwhile. It was simply that we saw that a deal needed to be reached if we were to regain the momentum and carry this process forward.

We can't deliver peace, John Bruton and I. We can't do that. What we can do is facilitate peace. And what we are putting

in place is a process that will help to carry that capacity for peace forward. Now, that can be achieved if the politicians in the North are able to reach themselves an agreement that this conflict is over. And what we were seeking was a mechanism of carrying this forward so that that work would continue.

But I emphasize the point, peace isn't in my gift or in John Bruton's gift. It is in the gift of all the people who at present have caused the conflict. We must bring them together. Constant examining of the detailed problems found a way through.

Q Did the President's trip have anything to do with it?

PRIME MINISTER MAJOR: I think the fact that the President's trip -- the President was coming concentrated the mind.

Q Now that you have agreement, are you prepared to accompany the President to Belfast on any part of his trip? And like the President, are you prepared to meet all the party leaders in Northern Ireland now?

PRIME MINISTER MAJOR: Well, I've met most of the party leaders in Northern Ireland. In due course I will meet them all. I won't be meeting them all quite yet. And I think the President is being accompanied by the Secretary of State to Northern Ireland. I will be answering questions in Parliament.

Q Mr. President, is your message to the IRA that they should start surrendering their weapons and explosives now, immediately?

THE PRESIDENT: My message is that the twin-tracks process has provided a mechanism for all of the parties honorably now to bring their concerns to the table and to be heard, and that, in the end, peace means peace, and we're all going to have to support that.

But the message I should give in public is the same message I would give in private: I think the framework set out by Prime Minister Major and Prime Minister Bruton is the best opportunity I have seen to resolve all of these issues, and I think it should be embraced, and I hope it will be.

PRIME MINISTER MAJOR: Have we time for one more? Yes, gentleman there.

Q Mr. Prime Minister, do you think Mr. President -- the President has been too accommodating to Mr. Adams, or do you think it's now -- his efforts have been worthwhile?

PRIME MINISTER MAJOR: I don't think it's a question of being accommodating at all. American support in this process has always been immensely helpful and the President has always taken a very great interest in that process. There is a communal interest in achieving a satisfactory settlement in Northern Ireland. It's very much in the interest of everybody in Northern Ireland, very close to my heart and something very close to the President's heart as well. And I welcome the tremendous support he's been, both publicly and privately. I think that has been very helpful, and I'm very pleased

to have the opportunity of thanking him for it in public.

Thank you very much, indeed.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.

END

11:37 A.M. (L)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(London, England)

For Immediate Release

November 29, 1995

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AND PRIME MINISTER MAJOR
IN EXCHANGE OF TOASTS

10 Downing Street
London, England

8:00 P.M. (L)

PRIME MINISTER MAJOR: Mr. President, Hillary, may I first, on behalf of all my government and all the people of the United Kingdom, bid you the very warmest welcome here to Downing Street this evening, and to the United Kingdom over the next few days. You are very welcome guests, indeed.

This morning, though, I was one of many people privileged to hear a very memorable and a very witty speech to members of both Houses of Parliament. I think that would have made a profound impression upon the people who heard that speech. Running through it was a very detailed knowledge of our history, A great deal of it, of course, shared with the United States, and running through it also was a feel for Britain and her people that could only have been acquired in your many stays in the United Kingdom since a young man. It's a speech that, frankly, could only have been made by a longstanding friend of this country, and it's in that guise that we welcome you here again this evening.

In that speech you quoted Winston Churchill. Now, Churchill made many of his finest speeches impromptu, or at least that's what is said. But his secret over time was, of course, rumbled. As one of his more sardonic rivals once put it, "Winston has devoted the best years of his life to preparing his impromptu speeches." (Laughter.)

Today you mentioned Winston Churchill and you crowned your speech today with what I hope I may call a Churchillian gesture that will have a very lasting and beneficial effect in this country. I don't believe you could have paid a finer tribute either to Sir Winston Churchill or to this country than in naming the new U.S. Navy cruiser the Winston Churchill. It was a gesture that was very deeply appreciated. And on behalf of everyone, I'd like to offer you my thanks for it. (Laughter.)

Even for someone who knows this country well, tomorrow you break fresh ground. Tomorrow you become the first serving President of the United States to visit Northern Ireland. You'll

find when you're there that you're visiting people to whom warmth and hospitality are second nature. I'm delighted you're going there. I'm delighted with the help and support that you have given our effort in the Northern Ireland peace process over recent years, and especially pleased to welcome with you this evening George Mitchell, who's done such a very great deal for Northern Ireland over the years and who has now taken on a very special responsibility. And I'm very grateful to him for doing so.

Over the past three years or so, I believe that, working together, the British and the Irish governments have achieved a great deal, often against the odds. A great deal by working together with the invaluable help of the United States. What John Bruton and I are seeking to do is quite clear. It's to give fresh impetus to the search for a lasting political settlement in Northern Ireland. A cease-fire is very welcome. A lasting settlement would be much more welcome and would provide a change of life in Northern Ireland of a scale that even yet most people have not begun to imagine.

We have had to take some risks in the cause of peace. I think that they are worthwhile risks to take. If I may borrow the words of one of your Democratic predecessors, "Let us never negotiate out of fear, but let us never fear to negotiate."

Mr. President, tomorrow you and Hillary and the rest of your team will see a Northern Ireland that is being transformed. And I believe as you see that, the very fact of your visit to Northern Ireland will be a huge encouragement to the people of Northern Ireland, who daily are transforming it. I am very grateful to you for taking the opportunity of going. (Applause.)

Let me briefly mention one other common endeavor. The peace agreement on Bosnia hammered out in Dayton was a remarkable achievement. It was made possible by your leadership, by your detailed understanding of one of the more complex problems we've seen in Europe over many years, and by the tenacity and stamina of Warren Christopher, Richard Holbrooke and their partners in seeing those talks to a successful conclusion.

It has taken three years in order to reach this point -- three years in which AID workers, United Nations peacekeepers and diplomatic negotiators have risked their lives, and some have given their lives, including your own envoys earlier this year. After such sacrifice, we mustn't allow Bosnia to slip back into war. So it is the responsibility falling upon your shoulders, and I think upon the shoulders of many other people as well, to ensure that the Dayton agreements can be turned into a lasting peace in Bosnia.

Mr. President, you joked this morning about the relationship between the United States and my country. My father was brought up in America as a boy. And he taught me as I grew up that when the chips are down, no two peoples have a better capacity to work together than the peoples of this island and of the United States. Today, in that remarkable speech you made in the House of Lords, you refreshed that relationship. I am delighted that you were able to do so, delighted that people can see the many fields of common endeavor in which the interests, the history and the natural instincts of the British and the American people march in the same direction.

Bill, in warmly welcoming you here this evening with Hillary, perhaps I may ask all my guests to join me and rise as I propose a toast to the President of the United States and Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton. The President and Mrs. Clinton.

(A toast is offered.) (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: Prime Minister and Mrs. Major, ladies and gentlemen, let me begin by saying how very grateful Hillary and I are to be here personally and representing the people of the United States. This has been a fine opportunity for me to meet with the Prime Minister and representatives of Her Majesty's government to talk about our common interests, our shared values, our future agenda. It's also been a great opportunity for me personally to come back to this wonderful city which I love so much and where I have such warm memories.

Prime Minister, I want to thank you especially for welcoming here at your table my stepfather for a personal reason. My late mother would love to be here tonight, and I miss her tonight especially because I tried in vain for 25 years to convince her that not every meal in London was steak and kidney pie or fish and chips. (Laughter.)

I want to say to all of you that I meant every word of the speech I gave in Parliament today. We have a relationship that is enduring and very special. If I might paraphrase one of my very favorite British citizens, 007, our relationship can never be stirred nor shaken. (Laughter.) It will always be there; it will always be strong.

And now we have a special responsibility. We have all the unique opportunities that are apparent to us to make peace and to make progress. But it will not happen unless we work at it and it will not happen if we try to work at it alone. It will only happen if we work at it together.

In Northern Ireland, I thank the Prime Minister for what he said. But the real thanks go to Prime Minister Major and to Prime Minister Bruton and his predecessor who were willing to take risks for peace. The United States supports those who take risks for peace. The risks may be political. We know they are severe. There's always a high risk of failure, as I said in Parliament today, and even if you fail, the people who wish you hadn't tried will hold it against you. Sometimes the risks are far, far greater as the Prime Minister and I saw not so long ago when we buried our friend, Prime Minister Rabin.

But the work of peace is always important. Today it is imperative because we can achieve it in so many places where just a short while ago it was impossible.

The philosophy of the United States is simple and consistent. It runs in a seamless way from Northern Ireland to Bosnia to the Middle East. We will support those who take risks for peace. We will not attempt to tell people what peace they should make, but only to urge on them the need to make peace at the soonest possible date in a fair and honorable and decent way.

I look forward to my trip to Northern Ireland, and I

look forward to doing whatever we can, consistent with our policy and the willingness of the parties to move on the path to peace.

I'd like to also thank the Prime Minister and again the British people for the sacrifices they have made in Bosnia over the course of that long and painful war, for the risks to your soldiers, for the extraordinary humanitarian aid, for all the nameless people who are alive today because of what Great Britain has done in that terrible and difficult conflict.

And I want to thank you anew for the very strong statement you made today in terms of the depth of commitment that you are prepared to make to implement this peace agreement. Together with our French and other allies, through NATO and with other nations who work in partnership with us, I believe we have a better than even chance to help bring peace to Bosnia because the parties made their peace at Dayton and the parties, if they will keep their minds straight and their hearts pure, can make the peace live in the lives of the people of Sarajevo and throughout the nation. These are the kinds of things we have to do.

I believe that the best days for democracy and freedom are before us -- but only if we face our challenges and only if we face them together.

I brought only one note tonight I wanted to read because I don't want to mix the words up. In one of history's stranger coincidental meetings, Mark Twain appeared in New York city on a cold night in the year 1900 to introduce a lecture by a young adventurer and writer by the name of Winston Churchill. So much for your -- I'm trying to remember -- Rudyard Kipling said, "Never the twain shall meet." (Laughter.) He was wrong. (Laughter.)

In the introduction, this is what Mark Twain said about the British and the Americans: "We have always been kin -- kin in blood, kin in religion, kin in representative government, kin in ideals, kin in just and lofty purposes." Mark Twain was not being humorous on that night. He was right then. He is right tonight.

I ask you to join me in a toast to Prime Minister and Mrs. Major and to the people of the wonderful nation of Great Britain.

(A toast if offered.) (Applause.)

END

8:17 P.M. (L)