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Faxes from M. DiGiacobbe-Statements by President

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Jackson Hole, Wyoming)

For Immediate Release

August 30, 1995

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT
ON THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY
OF THE CEASE-FIRE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Tomorrow marks the first anniversary of the Irish Republican Army's cease-fire in Northern Ireland, joined six weeks later by the Combined Loyalist Military Command. These historic decisions opened a door that had been closed to the people of Northern Ireland for too long -- the gateway to peace. On this anniversary, I urge the parties to build on the important work of the past year to secure a just and lasting settlement to a conflict that has cost so many lives.

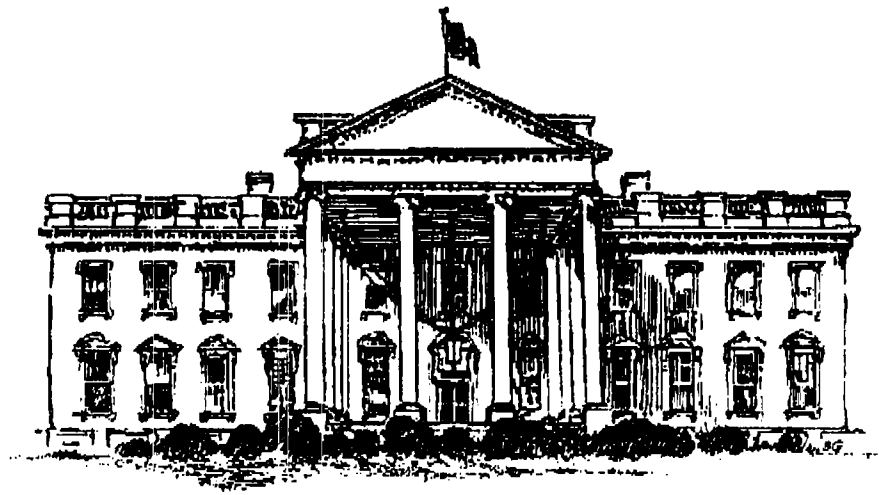
We owe much of the progress to the courage and determination of Prime Minister Major and Taoiseach Bruton and their continued willingness to take risks for peace. I also salute the people of Northern Ireland for their extraordinary perseverance and their dedication to the cause of peace. They have endured violence with so much dignity, and now the future that they have long deserved is within reach.

I am looking forward to visiting a peaceful Northern Ireland later this year and paying personal tribute to those who have worked so hard to bring about this new day. I welcome the progress made in recent months toward reducing barriers, alleviating tension and promoting reconciliation. Much, however, remains to be done. To advance the goal of peace, I urge both republicans and loyalists to do their part and seriously address the issue of decommissioning paramilitary weapons. This is an essential step toward banishing once and for all the specter of violence that has haunted Ireland. I urge the parties to sit down together soon to discuss their aspirations for the future as well as their fears and differences. As I have said before, I would be pleased if talks were underway by the time of my visit.

As we look back on a year in which the bombs and guns have been silenced, I hope all the parties will reaffirm their commitment to build a peace in Northern Ireland for generations. The U.S. stands ready to support the people of Northern Ireland and the British and Irish governments in that effort.

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SEP - 8 1995



THE WHITE HOUSE

To: Alexis Herman

Date: 9-7-95

From: DIGIACOBBE_M

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I thought you would be interested in the attached statement
made by President Clinton.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Monterey, California)

For Immediate Release

September 4, 1995

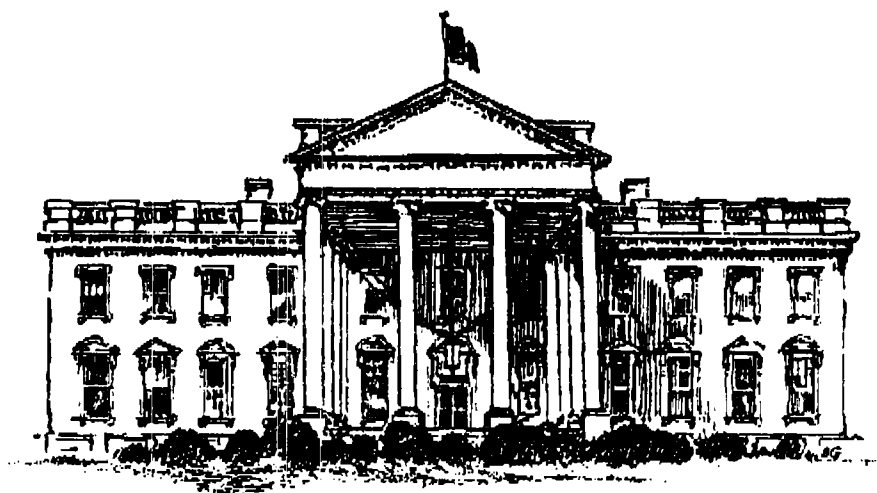
STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I welcome the decision by Prime Minister Papandreou and President Gligorov to send their Foreign Ministers to New York next week to complete an agreement on steps to establish friendly relations between their two countries. This courageous and visionary decision by both leaders is an extremely important step that will support current efforts to bring peace and stability to the Balkans. It is the result of months of intensive diplomatic efforts by Cyrus Vance, the United Nations mediator and by the President's envoy, Matthew Nimetz, as well as meetings today in Athens and Skopje by the negotiating team led by Assistant Secretary of State Richard Holbrooke.

In this context, I also welcome Greece's strong support for the U.S. peace initiative in the Balkans and its steadfast support as a NATO ally. Greece is an important partner in the ongoing negotiations and in the critical military decisions being taken within NATO. We will continue to consult closely with the Greek government in the coming weeks.

President Gligorov is dedicated to assuring that his new nation takes its rightful place in the international community. The imminent completion of an agreement with Greece demonstrates that significant progress has been made. I consider today's announcement a major step toward peace and stability in the Balkans. It is my fervent hope that it will encourage the leaders of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia to take further steps of their own toward peace.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

To: Alexis Herman

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FYI, another example of the Office of Public Liaison press operation at work. I have faxed this to the top 50 Greek-American newspapers and radio programs in the country.