

FOIA MARKER

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Folder Title:

POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland, November 27-December 2, 1995 (Executive Secretary Briefing Book) [3]

Staff Office-Individual:

Executive Secretary

Original OA/ID Number:

2587

Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:	Stack:
35	2	10	2	v

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. report	Biography (1 page)	11/20/1995	P1/b(1)
002. report	Biography (1 page)	11/20/1995	P1/b(1)
003. report	Biography (1 page)	11/20/1995	P1/b(1)
004. report	Biography (1 page)	11/20/1995	P1/b(1)
005. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/21/1995	P1/b(1)
006. report	Biography (1 page)	11/21/1995	P1/b(1)
007. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/21/1995	P1/b(1)
008. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/21/1995	P1/b(1)
009. report	Biography (1 page)	11/17/1995	P1/b(1)
010. report	Biography (2 pages)	01/21/1995	P1/b(1)
011. report	Biography (2 pages)	01/21/1995	P1/b(1)
012. report	Biography (2 pages)	01/21/1995	P1/b(1)
013. report	Biography (2 pages)	01/21/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Executive Secretary
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POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland,
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2017-0759-F
ke5211

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

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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015. report	Biography (2 pages)	01/21/1995	P1/b(1)
016. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/14/1995	P1/b(1)
017. report	Biography (1 page)	11/16/1995	P1/b(1)
018. report	Biography (1 page)	11/16/1995	P1/b(1)
019. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/15/1995	P1/b(1)
020. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/16/1995	P1/b(1)
021. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/16/1995	P1/b(1)
022. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/16/1995	P1/b(1)
023. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/15/1995	P1/b(1)
024. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/21/1995	P1/b(1)
025. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/21/1995	P1/b(1)
026. report	Biography (1 page)	11/20/1995	P1/b(1)

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028. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/14/1995	P1/b(1)
029. report	Biography (1 page)	11/21/1995	P1/b(1)
030. paper	UK Political Overview (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
031. paper	Status of IFOR Planning (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
032. paper	Status of Bosnia Reconstruction (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
033. paper	NATO Enlargement and European Security Architecture (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
034. paper	CFE (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
035. paper	Hong Kong (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
036. paper	Iran (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
037. paper	Iraq (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
038. paper	Libya and Pan Am 103 (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
039. paper	Current Issues with Turkey (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)

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040. paper	Cyprus Negotiations (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
041. paper	Ireland: Political Overview (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
042. paper	GOI/Nationalist Relations (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
043. paper	Irish Foreign Minister Spring and Cyprus (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
044. paper	Irish Participation in PFP/WEU (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
045. paper	Status of the Peace Process and Cease-Fire (3 pages)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
046. paper	Decommissioning Commission/Panel (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
047. paper	Northern Ireland: IRA and Sinn Fein (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
048. paper	Northern Ireland and "The Troubles" Since 1968 (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)

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BIOGRAPHIES

Divider Title: _____

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008. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/21/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Executive Secretary
OA/Box Number: 2587

FOLDER TITLE:

POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland,
November 27-December 2, 1995 (Executive Secretary Briefing Book) [3]

2017-0759-F
ke5211

RESTRICTION CODES

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

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
009. report	Biography (1 page)	11/17/1995	P1/b(1)

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National Security Council
Executive Secretary
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Executive Secretary
OA/Box Number: 2587

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National Security Council
Executive Secretary
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FOLDER TITLE:

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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)]

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Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
022. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/16/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Executive Secretary
OA/Box Number: 2587

FOLDER TITLE:

POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland,
November 27-December 2, 1995 (Executive Secretary Briefing Book) [3]

2017-0759-F
ke5211

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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2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

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Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
023. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/15/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Executive Secretary
OA/Box Number: 2587

FOLDER TITLE:

POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland,
November 27-December 2, 1995 (Executive Secretary Briefing Book) [3]

2017-0759-F
ke5211

RESTRICTION CODES

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

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Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
024. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/21/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Executive Secretary
OA/Box Number: 2587

FOLDER TITLE:

POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland,
November 27-December 2, 1995 (Executive Secretary Briefing Book) [3]

2017-0759-F
ke5211

RESTRICTION CODES

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Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
025. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/21/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Executive Secretary
OA/Box Number: 2587

FOLDER TITLE:

POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland,
November 27-December 2, 1995 (Executive Secretary Briefing Book) [3]

2017-0759-F
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Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
026. report	Biography (1 page)	11/20/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Executive Secretary
OA/Box Number: 2587

FOLDER TITLE:

POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland,
November 27-December 2, 1995 (Executive Secretary Briefing Book) [3]

2017-0759-F
ke5211

RESTRICTION CODES

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027. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/21/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Executive Secretary
OA/Box Number: 2587

FOLDER TITLE:

POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland,
November 27-December 2, 1995 (Executive Secretary Briefing Book) [3]

2017-0759-F
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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
028. report	Biography (2 pages)	11/14/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Executive Secretary
OA/Box Number: 2587

FOLDER TITLE:

POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland,
November 27-December 2, 1995 (Executive Secretary Briefing Book) [3]

2017-0759-F
ke5211

RESTRICTION CODES

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
029. report	Biography (1 page)	11/21/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Executive Secretary
OA/Box Number: 2587

FOLDER TITLE:

POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland,
November 27-December 2, 1995 (Executive Secretary Briefing Book) [3]

2017-0759-F
ke5211

RESTRICTION CODES

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

Divider Title: _____

United Kingdom

United Kingdom: Political Overview
United Kingdom: Economic Overview
Bosnia -- Status of IFOR Planning
Bosnia -- Status of Reconstruction
NATO Enlargement and European Security Architecture
CFE
UK Views on U.S.-EU Relations and the New Transatlantic Agenda
U.S. Economic Interests in the UK
Hong Kong
Iran
Iraq
Middle East Peace Process
Libya and Pan Am 103
UN Reform
Current Issues with Turkey
Cyprus Negotiations

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
030. paper	UK Political Overview (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Executive Secretary
OA/Box Number: 2587

FOLDER TITLE:

POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland,
November 27-December 2, 1995 (Executive Secretary Briefing Book) [3]

2017-0759-F
ke5211

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UK ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

Over the past fifteen years, the British economy has undergone a dramatic transformation. In 1979, following a decade of stagnation, unemployment, inflation and strikes, the Thatcher government embarked on a broad program of economic liberalization and privatization designed to revitalize Britain. Financed in part by the North Sea oil boom, the Thatcher program was able to put Britain in the front ranks of internationally competitive economies. The UK is now one of the fastest growing economies in the European Union (EU) and a magnet for foreign investment. With a GDP about 15 percent of the United States, Britain ranks among the world's top ten economies.

The UK economy had a banner year in 1994. Growth reached 4.1 percent, compared to the long-term trend of 2-2.5 percent. Thriving exports were a major force behind this strong recovery. Analysts project growth rates of 2.8 percent in 1995 and 2.7 percent in 1996.

Unemployment dropped sharply from 10.6 percent in January 1993, to 8.3 percent in August 1995. Further declines in the unemployment rate are expected in 1996. While these rates are relatively high by U.S. standards and do not fully reflect substantial numbers of long-term unemployed, they are significantly lower than those of many other EU members.

These positive developments notwithstanding, the UK still faces serious economic challenges. Weakening international demand for exports and a slowdown in domestic consumption have reduced growth in the third quarter of 1995 and dented confidence in the UK's near-term economic prospects. Lower-than-expected growth has hurt tax revenues, sending government borrowing significantly beyond the deficit reduction targets.

The latest developments have put Major's Government in a tight spot. It wants to cut taxes but must avoid excessive government borrowing and further inflationary pressures. The Chancellor of the Exchequer's budget presentation on November 28 will be closely watched and will have important implications for both the economy and the future of the Conservative Party.

The British pound now floats freely after the UK exit from the European Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM) in 1992. The pound's depreciation following the break with the ERM deserves at least part of the credit for the 1994 export boom. The pound was relatively stable in 1994 but suffered along with the dollar in early 1995. British interest rates are generally slightly higher than Germany's, reflecting the risk of inflation and/or devaluation.

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Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
031. paper	Status of IFOR Planning (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Executive Secretary
OA/Box Number: 2587

FOLDER TITLE:

POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland,
November 27-December 2, 1995 (Executive Secretary Briefing Book) [3]

2017-0759-F
ke5211

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Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
032. paper	Status of Bosnia Reconstruction (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Executive Secretary
OA/Box Number: 2587

FOLDER TITLE:

POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland,
November 27-December 2, 1995 (Executive Secretary Briefing Book) [3]

2017-0759-F
ke5211

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
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033. paper	NATO Enlargement and European Security Architecture (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)
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COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Executive Secretary
OA/Box Number: 2587

FOLDER TITLE:

POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland,
November 27-December 2, 1995 (Executive Secretary Briefing Book) [3]

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ke5211

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RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
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COLLECTION:

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2017-0759-F
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RESTRICTION CODES

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

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UK VIEWS ON U.S.-EU RELATIONS AND THE NEW TRANSATLANTIC AGENDA

The UK is a strong supporter of enhanced U.S.-EU relations and has been in the forefront of efforts to strengthen ties through the Transatlantic Initiative (TAI). As both an Atlantic and European country, the UK sees itself as uniquely positioned to promote transatlantic relations. UK support for U.S.-EU relations also flows from two guiding principles of British foreign policy over the past 50 years -- maintenance of the Atlantic Alliance to guarantee defense and security and promotion of free trade to ensure access to overseas markets.

UK officials have seen the TAI as a vehicle for strengthening U.S.-EU cooperation in a broad number of areas. Among them, Foreign Secretary Rifkind has emphasized the importance of trade liberalization and had proposed the study of a transatlantic free trade area as a key priority for the TAI. After discussing the proposal with Ambassador Kantor, however, Rifkind now accepts that such a study may be premature. The UK has endorsed the U.S. proposal incorporated in the TAI to study ways to facilitate trade in goods and services and further reduce or eliminate tariff and nontariff barriers.

Other areas of the TAI that are of particular interest to the UK include cooperation on efforts to combat international crime, drug trafficking and terrorism. We have achieved in the TAI commitments for a better exchange of information and intelligence between EUROPOL and U.S. law enforcement agencies and for enhanced training of law enforcement officials in key areas of the world. We also will be dealing with the issues raised by widely different extradition laws so that no country can be a sanctuary for criminals.

Despite their support in the Third Pillar area, the UK remains adamant that this should occur mainly through an intergovernmental process involving individual EU members rather than by strengthening the EU Commission's authority. Within the Conservative party, acceptance of EU authority on non-trade matters is still a source of controversy and division, particularly among the "Euroskeptics," who oppose closer European integration. At the same time, both the Conservative and Labour parties agree that the EU single market serves Britain's interests, and they have generally been supportive of the Transatlantic Initiative process.

U.S. ECONOMIC INTERESTS IN THE UK

The UK is one of our most important economic partners and a strong supporter of free trade. U.S. companies generally consider the UK market to be quite open, and we have few trade problems of a strictly bilateral nature. The UK is our fourth-largest trading partner worldwide and the largest in the European Union (EU). In 1994, bilateral trade exceeded \$50 billion, with the U.S. having a small trade surplus.

The investment relationship is of great importance for both economies. Each country has invested close to \$100 billion in the other, and we are each the largest foreign investor in the other. Many U.S. companies have had investments in the UK for so long that they are often thought to be British. Britain's EU membership -- combined with its favorable economic and regulatory climate -- has encouraged investment by many firms wanting to use the UK as a gateway to Europe. British companies such as Lever Bros. have been established in the U.S. since early in the century.

Sectors of particular interest include:

- Petroleum: U.S. firms have invested more than \$13 billion in the UK oil and gas sector, principally in the North Sea and Scotland.
- Manufacturing: Ford has the largest share of the UK car market. General Motors (Vauxhall) is also a major player. U.S. electronics firms, e.g., IBM, Compaq and National Semiconductor, have made large investments in the Glasgow-Edinburgh region, known as the "Silicon Glen."
- Banking and Finance: Most U.S. commercial and investment banks have offices in London. For many, London is their base for international operations.
- Telecommunications: U.S. telephone companies, including AT&T and several "Baby Bells," have taken advantage of the UK's liberal telecommunications regime to operate successfully here. Several also operate large cable TV franchises.
- Civil Aviation: North Atlantic routes are the most important international aviation market, and Heathrow is the world's busiest international airport. However, the UK has not liberalized its aviation relationship with the United States as it has other sectors of the economy.

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037. paper	Iraq (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)

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MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

Great Britain has provided political and practical support for the Middle East Peace Process but is no longer a major player in the region. In his visit to Jordan, Israel and the Occupied Territories in March of 1995, PM Major emphasized the UK's support for the peace process and announced a new pledge of \$12 million to the Palestinian authority. In general, the UK has provided aid to the Palestinians but is not in the forefront of major donors.

Foreign Secretary Rifkind's early November visit to the region also demonstrated support for the peace process, and his visit to Israel was symbolically important.

The UK also plays a substantial role in helping the Jordanian economy, having forgiven all aid debt following the Washington Declaration and giving approximately \$6 million a year in bilateral aid to Jordan. In addition to bilateral assistance, the UK is a major contributor via the EU to development programs in the Middle East. The UK will be making a substantial contribution to the EU-organized observation of the Palestinian elections.

The UK had the second largest contingent of private businessmen at the Amman Economic Summit. With the withering of the Arab boycott, more and more British companies are seeking to establish markets in Israel and neighboring states.

HMG has been among the most critical of the Europeans questioning the economic need for the Middle East Development Bank but has not definitively ruled out the option of eventually joining.

HMG officials reacted in a very low-key fashion to the recent Congressional vote on moving the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem. While calling the vote "unhelpful," senior officials welcomed the fact that the Administration had disassociated itself from the vote.

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038. paper	Libya and Pan Am 103 (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)

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UN REFORM

A multi-track effort is underway on UN reform. As proposed by President Clinton last fall, the UN General Assembly has established a high-level group to review the many existing proposals for economic, social and administrative reform and select the best for implementation. We need strong support from the UK and others to energize this group to develop a bold blueprint for UN reform before the 50th session of the General Assembly completes its work next fall. Separate efforts continue on peacekeeping, financing and Security Council reform.

UN member states are increasingly aware of the need to modernize the UN as an institution and prepare it for the challenges of the 21st century. The industrial democracies generally agree that this requires better coordination of UN activities, consolidation of related agencies, rethinking agency mandates and creating an effective management culture in a smaller and more focused UN Secretariat. However, garnering support for specific steps to implement goals in various agencies remains an uphill battle.

Our allies are uniformly critical of the size of U.S. debts to the UN, which PM Major characterized during the 50th anniversary celebrations as "representation without taxation." We have begun a dialogue with the Congressional leadership on a possible arrangement for U.S. payments to the UN in the context of overall UN reform. At the same time, UN member states must agree on an equitable scale of assessment that reflects current economic realities and ensures a stable financial base for the UN, including a reduction in the peacekeeping rate of assessment for the United States to 25%. In the working group on UN financing, the British have strongly supported adjustment of UN assessment rates.

We strongly support permanent membership on the Security Council for Germany and Japan. Many states want a Council larger than 20 members and elimination of veto rights; neither is acceptable to the U.S. A small number of states, including Ireland, advocate a Council of 23, including five new permanent members. The UK supports permanent seats for Japan and Germany, veto powers for all permanent members and no change in P-5 veto rights.

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
039. paper	Current Issues with Turkey (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)

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Ireland

Ireland: Political Overview

Ireland: Economic Overview

GOI/Unionist Relations

GOI/Nationalist Relations

U.S. Immigration Visa and Visa Waiver Programs

Domestic Irish Opinion on the Peace Process

Irish Cross-Border Trade and Investment in Northern Ireland

U.S.-Ireland Trade and Investment

Ireland and the EU

Irish FM Spring and Cyprus

Irish Participation in PFP/WEU

Divorce, the Church and Abortion in Ireland

List of Political Parties

Breakdown in Parliament

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
041. paper	Ireland: Political Overview (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)

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IRELAND: ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

Ireland has an open economy in which exports account for approximately two-thirds of GNP and foreign-owned multinationals contribute two-thirds of net manufacturing output. The economy is thus greatly influenced by the economic policies of its trading and investment partners, particularly those in the European Union. Ireland joined the EU in 1973.

The Irish economy is expanding at a much faster rate than the EU average, with an average 4.4 percent growth in gross domestic product over the past five years.

Despite significant economic growth, per capita income, at USD 14,889 in 1994, remains far below the European average. Unemployment, at over 14 percent, is the third highest rate in the EU (compared to a European average of 10.6 percent). One of the greatest challenges to the Irish government, therefore, is to stimulate the kind of investment in Ireland that will create new employment opportunities for its young citizens.

The Irish government seeks to make its economy more "competitive" through keeping wages down, continuing with a program of structural reform and improving the skills of its labor force through education and training. The Irish economy has been assisted in overcoming structural weaknesses by the EU structural fund. The fund will channel USD 12 billion to Ireland during the period 1994-1999, but funding after that period will decrease as EU enlargement brings central European countries which require assistance into the EU.

The Irish government is committed to meeting the Maastricht Treaty criteria for proceeding to European Monetary Union. To that end, it has been successful in keeping its government deficit below three percent of GDP every year since 1988. Government debt has also been reduced significantly, although it stands at approximately 92 percent of GDP. The exchange rate is stable, and interest rates are declining.

Irish officials are concerned about the United Kingdom's possible opt-out from the single currency, as the Irish economy is closely linked to sterling. The peace process in Northern Ireland has deepened economic ties with the United Kingdom. Ireland's central bank governor, recently addressing a European Parliamentary Committee, warned of the danger to 45,000 Irish jobs in Ireland which rely on sterling markets, if sterling falls sharply as a result of the United Kingdom opting out of EMU. While the peace process is good for the Irish economy, particularly tourism, the economic dynamism of Northern Ireland could force the republic to improve its competitiveness in order to attract the kind of foreign investment that may help to solve the problem of long-term unemployment.

GOI/UNIONIST RELATIONS

Traditionally, there has been little formal contact between the Irish government and unionists. Unionist leaders have generally refrained from coming to Dublin or meeting with Irish officials for fear of supporting the Republic's claim to having a legitimate interest in Northern Ireland. For this reason, the October 2 visit to Dublin by new Ulster Unionist Party (UUP) leader David Trimble was highly significant. It was the first such visit by a UUP leader in more than 25 years.

The Irish government is eager to establish an ongoing dialogue with the UUP, as evidenced by Foreign Minister Dick Spring's decision to quickly reciprocate Trimble's visit by travelling to Belfast on October 23.

The Irish government also has recently started talking with the Loyalist paramilitary parties, i.e., the Progressive Unionist Party (PUP) and the Ulster Democratic Party (UDP). While the government's contacts with the UUP and Loyalist parties expand, Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) remains unwilling to engage in dialogue with Dublin.

As the leader of Fine Gael, the descendant of "pro-treaty" forces which supported the partition of Ireland in 1922, Prime Minister Bruton has long advocated removing the Republic's constitutional claim to Northern Ireland and being more sympathetic to the concerns of unionists. Accordingly, Bruton came to office with far more credibility among unionists than his Fianna Fail predecessor, Albert Reynolds, who unabashedly saw himself as the leader of "nationalist Ireland." Bruton has frequently argued that Ireland's proper role in the Northern Ireland peace process is to be a "facilitator."

In recent speeches, Bruton has sympathized with the reluctance of unionists to sit down at the negotiating table with Sinn Fein prior to the decommissioning of IRA arms. This stance has drawn criticism from Fianna Fail leader Bertie Ahern, who believes Dublin should be more proactive in the peace process and supportive of the nationalist cause. It has also put him at odds with Foreign Minister Dick Spring, who has tended to focus criticism on the British for making decommissioning a "precondition" for all-party talks.

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
042. paper	GOI/Nationalist Relations (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

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National Security Council
Executive Secretary
OA/Box Number: 2587

FOLDER TITLE:

POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland,
November 27-December 2, 1995 (Executive Secretary Briefing Book) [3]

2017-0759-F
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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]
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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)]

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U.S. IMMIGRANT VISA AND VISA WAIVER PROGRAMS

Ireland is a small country with a long tradition of sending large numbers of emigrants abroad. An unstated policy of successive Irish governments has been to facilitate emigration. It is seen as a safety valve to keep high unemployment from becoming an explosive issue. The principal destination for Irish emigrants, after the United Kingdom, is the United States, making Ireland one of the largest per capita contributors of immigrants to the United States. Estimates put the number of people in the United States who trace their roots to Ireland at 45 million. Immigration between Ireland and the United States is, however, not a one-way street. An estimated 35,000 U.S. citizens reside in Ireland, one percent of the population. Immigration remains an important domestic political issue in Ireland and a key bilateral issue in the U.S.-Irish relationship.

Ireland and the Immigrant Visa Lottery Programs. Irish nationals have been the primary beneficiaries of the various recent immigrant visa lotteries. Special provisions in several of the initial lotteries guaranteed the Irish a larger share of the available visas than that offered to nationals of any other country. Under current legislation, the Irish do not enjoy any unique advantages, however. Since 1987, over 70,000 Irish citizens have benefited from the immigrant visa lotteries. During this fiscal year, approximately 1,200 Irish citizens will likely receive visas under the current lottery program. These programs have generated considerable media interest on both sides of the Atlantic, and interest remains high.

The Visa Waiver Pilot Program. As of April 1, 1995, Irish passport holders no longer require a visa for tourist stays in the United States of 90 days or less. From the Irish point of view, dropping the visa requirement removed an irritant in our bilateral relationship and put Ireland on par with most other EU countries. Since the program began, over 32,000 Irish citizens departing from Ireland have taken advantage of visa-free travel to the United States. In the past, during times of economic downturn, many Irish citizens have used a tourist visa to enter and work illegally in the United States. During the pilot stage of this program, the Immigration and Naturalization Service will ascertain whether or not the visa waiver program is being similarly used.

DOMESTIC IRISH OPINION ON THE PEACE PROCESS

A poll commissioned by USIA this past summer showed that the Irish public was fairly optimistic the IRA cease-fire would hold, and there would be a peaceful resolution of the conflict in Northern Ireland. Almost 90 percent said they were "very hopeful" or "somewhat hopeful" for the future.

During the past few months, however, the continuing stalemate over decommissioning has substantially diminished this level of optimism. In a September survey, 60 percent said they thought the peace process was now "at risk." In the September survey, 46 percent said they thought "the British government" or "John Major" was responsible for putting the peace process at risk. Only 17 percent cited the IRA, Sinn Fein or Gerry Adams.

The Irish Government still has strong support for its policy toward Northern Ireland. The poll showed that 58 percent supported how Prime Minister Bruton was handling Northern Ireland affairs; only 27 percent disapproved.

The Irish continue to have a positive view of the U.S. role in the peace process. Almost 80 percent of those surveyed said they had a favorable opinion of actions the United States had taken to bring about a resolution to the Northern Ireland conflict.

The USIA poll also showed that almost two-thirds of the public supports removing the legal claim to the territory of Northern Ireland that is found in Articles 2 and 3 of the Irish constitution.

That said, there continues to be overwhelming support in the Republic for a united Ireland. In the USIA poll, 78 percent said they favored the idea of a united Ireland; only 20 percent said they were "not sure a united Ireland is the best thing for Ireland." Some 45 percent favored a united Ireland as soon as a majority of the entire island supports it, while 33 percent favored it as soon as a majority in Northern Ireland does.

There is a general recognition that at best, a united Ireland is several years, if not decades, away. In the meantime, the Irish public is strongly supportive of the Irish government having a significant role in Northern Ireland affairs. The USIA poll showed that 59 percent believe that any future political settlement should give Dublin "a major role" in Northern Ireland affairs. One-third supported "a minor role" and only three percent thought the Irish government should have "no role at all."

IRISH CROSS-BORDER TRADE AND INVESTMENT WITH NORTHERN IRELAND

Prospects for expanded cross-border trade and investment between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland have improved dramatically in the wake of the 1994 cease-fire. By alleviating unemployment and giving all residents a stake in peace and prosperity, trade and investment will play a vital role in consolidating peace on the island.

Irish government estimates indicate that total exports from the Republic to Northern Ireland increased by over 11 percent in 1994, and the Republic's imports from Northern Ireland increased by 26 percent. If these growth rates are maintained for the next five years, north/south trade will double.

Tourism has been the sector that has benefited most dramatically from the peace process. It is estimated that tourism from the south to the north increased by 117 percent since last year, and to the south by 44 percent. Over the next five years, 62 new hotels will need to be built in Northern Ireland at a cost of over 160 million dollars to handle the expected surge in tourists from the Republic and elsewhere.

The Northern Ireland market is viewed as an untapped source of wealth by many marketing experts in the south. One estimate suggests that Irish companies currently serving only the southern Irish market have the potential to add an additional 540,000 households (a 45 percent increase) to their market.

Economists estimate north-south trade before the cease-fires was one-fourth what one would expect. Political turmoil was an important factor in limiting business contact between north and south over the past 25 years, but it was not the only factor. Customs and border delays, poor roads and telecommunications and an absence of reliable market data were other important obstacles to closer economic cooperation. With the evolution of the single European market and closer cooperation between Ireland and the UK within the European Union, these barriers have begun to fall. (Of course, a key barrier will remain if the UK opts out of a common European currency while Ireland opts in.) Nevertheless, progress in the peace process remains the single biggest factor underlying the current mood of optimism for north/south synergies.

International support for cross-border economic activity has begun to pay off. European union funds have helped develop infrastructure needed to facilitate trade and investment. Likewise, targeted investments by the International Fund for Ireland in the years prior to the cease-fire helped lay the groundwork for north/south cooperation in various spheres that has multiplied since the cease-fire took effect.

U.S.-IRELAND TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Ireland, although a small country with 3.5 million inhabitants, has significant commercial relations with the United States. During 1994, total bilateral trade exceeded \$7.6 billion with a trade surplus of about \$1.8 billion for the United States. Some 400 U.S. companies have established manufacturing, assembly, operational or service operations in Ireland, with investments of approximately eight billion dollars. Ireland has one percent of the EU's population, but four percent of U.S. investment in the EU. Thus, the country is a significant gateway to the European marketplace.

Ireland has a small open economy that is very dependent on trade. The country's ratio of merchandise exports plus imports to gross national product was 128 percent in 1994, (148 percent if services are added). This compares with some 43 percent in the UK and 15 percent in the U.S. Ireland enjoys a trade surplus of about \$7.1 billion (15.5 percent of GNP). As over 70 percent of exports originate from international firms located in Ireland, U.S. firms with operations in Ireland have played a significant role in the country's strong export performance, while concurrently importing a significant measure of U.S. raw materials, components and intermediate goods.

The principal reason for the traditional U.S. surplus is the purchases of U.S.-origin raw materials and intermediate goods by U.S. subsidiaries and substantial trade in agricultural products. U.S. exports of goods and services to Ireland increased by 24 percent to \$4.7 billion in 1994 and enabled the U.S. to achieve an 18 percent share of Ireland's import market. Meanwhile, U.S. imports of goods and services from Ireland increased by 6 percent to \$2.9 billion. The U.S. accounts for 8 percent of all Irish exports.

The leading product categories of U.S. exports to Ireland in 1994 were computers and electronics; electrical machinery; chemicals and pharmaceuticals; and agriculture and food products. The leading Irish exports to the U.S. are chemicals and pharmaceuticals, computers and electronics products; and electrical machinery.

Ireland is the manufacturing, assembly or operational location for over 1,000 international companies. These firms account for one-third of Ireland's GNP and over 70 percent of exports. The 400 U.S. firms are the largest country grouping and represent over 50 percent of the estimated \$19 billion international investment in Ireland. They employ some 47,000 personnel. Sales by the U.S. companies in Ireland increased almost fourfold from 1983 to 1992. Exports to Ireland doubled over the same period. These investments generate a significant revenue flow to the U.S. of dividends, royalties and licensing fees.

IRELAND AND THE EU

Ireland has been a member of the EU since 1973, when along with the United Kingdom and Denmark, it joined the original six member states. In referenda in 1972, 1987 and 1992, Irish citizens overwhelmingly endorsed accession to the communities and subsequent treaties bringing member states closer toward union. Ireland's identification with the European Union is strong. As President Mary Robinson said in a recent television interview, Irish young people are beginning to view as "interchangeable" their Irish and European identities.

Under the present round of EU structural and cohesion funds, Ireland is to receive a total of 6.7 billion Irish pounds (at the current exchange rate, approximately USD 10.8 billion) for the period 1993-1999, although this amount could increase after a mid-term review in 1997. Any increase in the number of EU member states would have a significant impact on Ireland's future receipt of EU funding.

During the second half of 1996, Ireland will hold the EU presidency for the fifth time. It will be a challenging presidency, as it will coincide with the beginning of the EU Intergovernmental Conference (IGC). Apart from the considerable economic and social benefits conferred by the EU, membership enables the small country of Ireland to stand on virtually equal ground with the major European powers. Ireland is therefore concerned about proposals to amend the EU treaty in such a way that would reduce the decision-making influence of smaller member states in the union. Thus, during the IGC, Ireland is likely to push to ensure that each member retains one commissioner (Ireland's current Commissioner is Padraig Flynn), that the system of rotating presidencies does not change and that smaller member states continue to have an adequate level of representation on the European Parliament (Ireland has 15 members).

Also during their IGC presidency, Irish officials have indicated that they will push to make progress that is "tangible" to European citizens. To that end, Ireland is likely to push for some initiatives on employment and the fight against drugs. Furthermore, Ireland is likely to advocate transferring matters such as immigration and asylum policy from the intergovernmental third pillar to the first pillar. Ireland can be expected to focus on ways to contribute in the areas of conflict prevention and crisis management, while steering clear of any steps that might lead to joining mutual defense pacts.

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
043. paper	Irish Foreign Minister Spring and Cyprus (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)

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RESTRICTION CODES

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

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
044. paper	Irish Participation in PFP/WEU (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)

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Clinton Presidential Records
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Executive Secretary
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DIVORCE, THE CHURCH AND ABORTION IN IRELAND

The Republic's socially conservative society has been cited as one of the potential stumbling blocks to Dublin winning a formal role in the governance of Northern Ireland, but that is quickly changing. In a November 24 referendum, a narrow majority of the Irish public is expected to vote in favor of ending the constitutional ban on divorce, despite the continuing opposition of the Catholic church.

Since 1986, when Irish voters upheld the ban on divorce by a 2-to-1 margin, the moral authority of the church on divorce and other issues has been badly damaged by a series of high-profile sexual misconduct cases involving prominent clergyman. Recent revelations indicate that the Catholic church has systematically withheld information about suspected child abuse from authorities, preferring to keep things quiet by paying financial compensation directly to victims' families.

Also contributing to the likely success of this year's divorce referendum are more than a dozen pieces of family law legislation, which have been passed over the past 10 years to address the concerns of those who voted "no" in 1986. Legal separation has been possible since 1989, so the referendum is focused on the narrow question of whether separated people should be allowed to end formally their first unions so they can re-marry. To win over wavering voters who fear the development of an "easy divorce" culture in Ireland, the government has proposed that strict terms for divorce be written into the constitution, meaning that any future changes would have to be approved in another referendum. Under the proposed constitutional amendment, a couple must have "lived apart" for at least four of the previous five years to be eligible for divorce.

Abortion in the republic remains illegal, but since 1992, Irish women have had the constitutional right to travel abroad to receive abortions. Earlier this year, a law was passed giving force to constitutional provisions allowing women to obtain information about foreign abortion services.

IRELAND POLITICAL PARTIES

Fianna Fail (FF). The largest party in Ireland, the Republican Party, was founded by Eamon de Valera in 1926. The most nationalist political party, its aims are to secure the unity and independence of Ireland as a republic, to restore the Irish language, to develop a distinctive national life in accordance with Irish traditions and ideals and to make the resources and wealth of Ireland subservient to the needs and welfare of all the people of Ireland. Its policy also includes the provision of employment for the maximum number of people. The party is broad based with strong representation in both urban and rural Ireland. It is part of the European Democratic Alliance in the European Parliament. Bertie Ahern, leader of the opposition, is party leader.

Fine Gael (FG). The second largest party in Ireland and the largest party in the present government, Fine Gael was founded in 1933 by the coming together of a number of "pro-treaty" parties which supported the founding of the nation on the basis of the 1922 treaty partitioning the island. Fine Gael is based on the principles of the encouragement of enterprise combined with social justice and with decision-making devolved to the appropriate level. It believes in the ideal of reconciliation with the people of Northern Ireland. It has as its immediate objectives improved access for young people and women to decision-making, greater tax equity, fairer opportunities in education and the maintenance or improvement of social welfare provisions. Fine Gael participates with European Christian Democratic parties in the European People's Party in the European integration. Prime Minister John Bruton is leader of the party.

Labour. The party was founded in 1912 at a conference of the Irish Trade Union Congress. It is the oldest political party in Ireland and through its affiliation in the Socialist International is a sister party of the Social Democratic and Labour Party in Northern Ireland. It participates in the European Parliament as a member of the Party of European Socialists. The Labour Party seeks to build a society free from deprivation and based on the principles of democracy, equality, participation and cooperation. The Party won 19.3% of the votes in the 1992 General Election which was its highest ever. It is the second largest party in the present government coalition. The President of Ireland, Mary Robinson, was a member of the Labour Party. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dick Spring is party leader.

Progressive Democrats. The PDs were formed in 1985 when a group of Fianna Fail members led by Desmond O'Malley left Fianna Fail on account of Fianna Fail opposition to the Anglo-Irish

Agreement. The present leader of the party is Mary Harney, the first woman leader of a political party in the history of the State. The PDs were established with the aim of providing Ireland with a modern forward looking liberal party in the European mold. The party favors positive Government action to create an enterprise society and a review of the role of the State in the economic and social life of the country. The party supports the movement towards greater political and economic integration among the Member States of the European Union.

Democratic Left. The party was founded in 1992 and is organized in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Democratic Left entered government as part of the coalition formed in December 1994. The principle objectives of Democratic Left include the development of a pluralist socialist society in Ireland; commitment to a positive neutrality for Ireland and global collective security; the incorporation of ecological principles into social, economic and political decision-making. Democratic Left is particularly committed to the achievement of gender equality in society and its own internal structures. There is a minimum 40% gender quota on the party's NEC. The party believes that neither traditional unionism nor nationalism can provide a solution to the problems of Northern Ireland. The party supports the concept of weighted-majority decision making in Northern Ireland at central and local level. The party leader is Proinsias De Rossa, Minister for Social Welfare.

The Green Party. The Green Party was formed in 1992 from an alliance of social movements and protest groups. The first member of parliament was elected in 1989. In 1994 two Green MEPs were elected to the European Parliament. The party is linked with the European-wide Green movement and with them is working for a sustainable, just ecological world. The party has no leaders, with all positions within it rotating after one year.

PARTY REPRESENTATION IN THE DAIL

Government Coalition

Fine Gael - 47
Labour - 32
Democratic Left - 6

Opposition

Fianna Fail - 67
Progressive Democrats - 8
Greens and Independents - 6

Total Members of Parliament: 166

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland: Political Overview
Northern Ireland: Economic Overview
Status of the Peace Process and Cease-Fire
Decommissioning Commission/Panel
Northern Ireland: IRA and Sinn Fein
Paramilitary Prisoners
Investment in Northern Ireland
International Fund for Ireland
Northern Ireland: Demographics
Northern Ireland and "The Troubles" Since 1968
List of Political Parties and Leaders
List of 17 Westminster

NORTHERN IRELAND: POLITICAL OVERVIEW

Northern Ireland is part of the UK and is made up of 6 of the 9 counties of the old Irish province of Ulster. It had its own devolved system of government between 1921 and 1972, when the parliament at Stormont was dissolved. Following the failure of the power-sharing Executive in 1974, a system of direct rule was established. Under this arrangement, Northern Ireland is ruled directly from London through a Secretary of State, currently Sir Patrick Mayhew, who is a member of the British cabinet. The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland is assisted by four junior Ministers who supervise on his behalf the departments of the former government of Northern Ireland. Senior levels of the civil service have not been representative of Catholics, but there has been improvement in recent years.

Northern Ireland sends 17 members to the Westminster Parliament. Of the current members of parliament elected from Northern Ireland constituencies, nine are from the Ulster Unionist Party (UUP), four from the Social Democratic Labour Party (SDLP), three from the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) and one an independent unionist. No Northern Ireland MP currently sits in the cabinet and the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, by custom and practice, is not chosen from among Northern Irishers. (Brian Mawhinney, the Conservative Party chairman, hails from Northern Ireland but represents a British constituency.)

There is a tier of local government, administered through 26 District Councils. As most functions such as housing, education, roads, water, sewerage and planning are carried out by the central government departments, the councils retain only relatively minor executive powers.

Despite their limited authority, district councils, as the only elected local bodies, provide important outlets for expression of political views. One of the goals of the political process is to reinvest these councils with real authority, making governance of Northern Ireland more responsive to democratically-elected local officials.

Policing in Northern Ireland is done by the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC). Since 1969, the British Army has provided security support to the RUC. As the cease-fire has held, the role of the army in supporting the RUC on the streets has greatly diminished. Historically, the RUC has been overwhelmingly Protestant (90-95%) and has not enjoyed the support of most Catholic communities.

NORTHERN IRELAND: ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

Northern Ireland's economy is demand driven, led by public sector expenditures. The public sector accounts for 40 percent of employment, compared with 25 percent in the rest of the UK. Almost one-half of manufacturing output is sold in Britain and only one-quarter sold locally. Cross-border trade is about one-quarter of what normally would be expected. GDP in 1990 was \$15 billion, approximately 2 percent of the UK total.

Unemployment remains the major economic problem in Northern Ireland. The 1994 rate of unemployment was 12.8 percent as compared to 9.1 percent for the UK. Employment in traditional industries of shipbuilding, linen and agriculture has declined.

While the economy is switching toward services, agriculture still accounts for three times the proportion of employment in the UK as a whole. Aerospace engineering is one of the biggest manufacturing industries which also include electronics, telecommunications equipment, vehicle components, synthetic rubber and food processing. Forty-three U.S. firms have operations in Northern Ireland, providing 9,000 jobs, approximately 9 percent of the manufacturing work force. They include Ford, Fruit of the Loom, 3M, Seagate Technologies, Sonoco Products and United Technologies.

While the work force is highly-skilled and wage levels are 16 percent lower than the rest of the UK, violence has deterred investors from taking advantage of this. Tourism, presently 1.5 percent of Northern Ireland's GDP, offers the best prospect for job creation. Since the cease-fire it has increased by over 50 percent.

Most economic indicators have improved markedly since the cease-fire was announced. Northern Ireland will likely be the fastest growing region in the UK this year, with estimated growth of 4.4 percent (compared to 2.8 percent in Britain).

EU economic assistance has contributed \$2.2 billion from the EU's structural funds (designed to strengthen the economy in EU regions with below average GDP per capita). The EU has approved an additional \$2.9 billion in economic assistance for 1994-1999. A special \$360 million package to support the peace process was approved at the Essen Summit in early 1995. Eighty percent of the funds will be spent in Northern Ireland with the remainder spent in the border counties of the Republic. The EU also has increased its annual contribution to the International Fund for Ireland to \$38 million.

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
045. paper	Status of the Peace Process and Cease-Fire (3 pages)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
046. paper	Decommissioning Commission/Panel (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
047. paper	Northern Ireland: IRA and Sinn Fein (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Executive Secretary
OA/Box Number: 2587

FOLDER TITLE:

POTUS [President of the United States] Trip to UK [United Kingdom]/Ireland,
November 27-December 2, 1995 (Executive Secretary Briefing Book) [3]

2017-0759-F
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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]
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Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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PARAMILITARY PRISONERS

Dozens of individuals convicted of terrorist offenses by British and Irish non-jury courts remain in prison in both the UK and Ireland. These prisoners have a direct impact on the peace process in two key respects. First, last year's paramilitary cease-fires probably could not have been declared without the acquiescence -- or, in some cases, the active leadership -- of prominent prisoners who carry great moral authority within the Republican and Loyalist movements. Second, how the prisoners are treated has become an important benchmark by which progress toward peace and reconciliation is measured. In particular, Irish nationalists believe British reluctance to release or repatriate prisoners, reduce sentences, or ease prison regimes reflects "bad faith" by HMG.

The Irish government has released over thirty of the fifty plus paramilitary prisoners held in Republic jails when the cease-fire was declared. Most of these were near the end of their sentences, and none was under a life sentence.

HMG has passed legislation allowing paramilitary prisoners held in UK jails to be eligible for release after completing half their sentences. On November 17, 84 prisoners, loyalist and republican, were released. Paramilitary prisoners under a life sentence do not qualify under this law.

Approximately 600 Irish nationals are imprisoned in Britain, 27 of whom are considered paramilitary offenders whom the Irish government would like repatriated to Ireland to serve out their sentences. In deciding to transfer these prisoners, the British government will be concerned that prison sentences not be substantially reduced.

There are a dozen or so Irish "Republican" prisoners in the U.S. who have been convicted in U.S. courts of arms smuggling, a charge viewed as "political" by many in the Irish-American community. The Irish government has expressed interest in the possibility of repatriating some or all of these individuals.

Treatment of IRA prisoners in British jails is a controversial issue. The case of Patrick Kelly, who is suffering from skin cancer, has drawn particular attention from Irish politicians and human rights groups. While no IRA hunger strikes are currently underway, some paramilitary prisoners are conducting "dirty protests" (smearing walls with excrement) in pursuit of improved conditions.

INVESTMENT IN NORTHERN IRELAND

The cease-fire has resulted in increased interest in Northern Ireland, after political violence had scared off most foreign investors for almost a generation. The province offers a well-trained labor force with low wages relative to the rest of the UK and Northern Europe. Many potential investors, however, are uncertain whether the peace will last and have adopted a wait-and-see attitude.

The Northern Ireland Industrial Development Board (IDB) has experienced a threefold increase in inquiries from foreign companies since the cease-fire was announced. Visits by potential investors have risen by nearly 50 percent over the past year. Ten major investments with the potential for 2,000 jobs have been announced in recent months. These include ABC Laboratories and Seagate Technologies of the U.S. and Daewoo and Dae Ryung of Korea.

The surge in inward investment since the cease-fire led the IDB recently to double its target for jobs created by inward investment. The agency now envisages securing 60 investment projects over the next three years that will generate 12,000 jobs -- a figure which represents a sizeable percent of the province's 87,000 unemployed.

American investment in Northern Ireland has been active over many years -- both before and during the "Troubles." Some 85 U.S. companies have operations in Northern Ireland, employing approximately 10,000 people.

The head of the IDB, Bruce Robinson, has emphasized in media interviews that the May White House Conference on Investment in Ireland has helped enormously to raise the commercial profile of Northern Ireland. He is particularly pleased that the conference led to contacts within American companies at a far higher level than IDB normally obtains. As a direct result of the conference, IDB's main interest now is attracting U.S. investors. Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, also has publicly acknowledged the important role played by the White House Conference in making the U.S. business community aware of commercial opportunities in the province.

Commerce Assistant Secretary Meissner led a business development mission with 16 U.S. firms to Northern Ireland (and the border counties) in mid-October. One company has already received two contracts as a result of the mission, and other deals are currently under negotiation. Commerce is planning two more trade and investment missions next year.

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR IRELAND

The International Fund for Ireland (the Fund) was established as an independent organization by the British and Irish Governments in 1986 following the signing of the Anglo-Irish Agreement. The overall objectives of the Fund are to promote economic and social advancement and to encourage contact, dialogue and reconciliation between Nationalists and Unionists throughout Northern Ireland and the six border counties of the Republic of Ireland.

The U.S. presently appropriates some \$20 million annually to the Fund. The two U.S. Government priorities in its contribution to the Fund are job creation and stimulating private investment. The U.S. annual contribution has been a tangible expression of U.S. policy favoring peace and reconciliation through economic progress in Northern Ireland.

In the package of initiatives for supporting peace in Ireland announced last November, a proposed increase for the Fund of \$10 million per year over the next two years was announced, but the increase was not approved, and funding remains at \$19.6 million.

The Fund has created nearly 29,000 new jobs through funding 3,000 separate activities in the past nine years. On average, the United States contributes 25 percent of total project costs; the remainder is paid for by other donors, private investors and local government programs. The Fund receives international contributions from the United States, the European Community, Canada, New Zealand and Australia.

The Board of the Fund is appointed jointly by the Irish and British Governments and meets every two months to make decisions on the funding of project proposals. The U.S. Government has a non-voting seat at the table through the President's appointed U.S. Observer, Jim Lyons.

Some Unionists have been critical of the Fund for favoring Nationalist areas, but independent reviews of the Fund have found that the Fund is careful to make its funding decisions on objective criteria.

Fund projects to create jobs in the tourism sector, notably construction of a golf course, drew media criticism.

NORTHERN IRELAND: DEMOGRAPHICS

Northern Ireland has a population of some 1.6 million (about 3 percent of the UK total) living in an area of 5,500 square miles. About half its population lives on the eastern seaboard, two-thirds within a 30-mile radius of Belfast, which has a population of just over 300,000. The other main center of population is Londonderry, about 80 miles from Belfast in the Northwest. Londonderry (also known as Derry) has a population of approximately 100,000.

The pattern of settlement in Northern Ireland is well defined, with the majority of Protestants concentrated in the east of the province and the proportion of Catholics increasing into the western, more rural areas and along the border. The 1991 census, when adjusted for statistical anomalies, showed an estimated population split of 56 percent Protestant, 41.5 percent Catholic and 2 percent other. The Catholic proportion of the population has increased in recent censuses because of higher Catholic birth rates. However, the Catholic birth rate now is declining faster than the Protestant birth rate.

Even though the overall Northern Ireland birth rate has been declining, it is still significantly higher than that in either Great Britain or the Republic of Ireland. In the past, high levels of emigration have acted as a safety valve for the youth. However, migration has fallen in recent years as terrorist incidents decreased. There appears to be a strong correlation between these two statistics.

Families and households are larger in Northern Ireland than elsewhere in the UK. Northern Ireland continues to have a relatively young population; almost a quarter of its inhabitants are 15 years old or younger.

Demographics have a political cast since some observers believe that the Catholics will eventually have a majority in Northern Ireland, and this will bring about union with the Republic.

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048. paper	Northern Ireland and "The Troubles" Since 1968 (1 page)	11/00/1995	P1/b(1)

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NORTHERN IRELAND POLITICAL PARTIES

The Ulster Unionist Party (UUP). Largest political party in Northern Ireland whose leader is the Honorable David Trimble, MP. It gained 34.5 percent of the vote in Northern Ireland in the last Westminster elections. The UUP supports the union and traditionally is to the right of center in social and economic policies. However, on the basis of strictly economic and social issues, many individual members would be more comfortable in the British Labour Party.

The Democratic Unionist Party (DUP). Formed in 1971, it is a more radical Protestant party refusing to discuss union with the Republic of Ireland. It receives about 13 percent of the province-wide vote and is led by Reverend Ian Paisley. Its membership is recruited more from the Protestant blue collar working class areas.

The Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP). Formed in 1970, it is the largest Catholic party in Northern Ireland. Its leader is John Hume, MP. The SDLP currently represents about two-thirds of the Nationalist (pro-union with the Republic) vote. The party is committed to unification with the Republic of Ireland by non-violent, gradualist means. It received 23.5 percent of the vote in the last Westminster elections.

Alliance Party. Formed in 1970 by both Catholics and Protestants, the party is non-sectarian and supports power-sharing. The party's leader is Dr. John Alderdice. It received 8.7 percent of the vote in the last Westminster elections.

Sinn Fein. Has its origins in the 1917 move to independence by the Republic of Ireland. In 1919, it controlled the majority of seats in the Irish Parliament. Sinn Fein was reincarnated in Northern Ireland in the early 1970's as a political front to the Irish Republican Army (IRA). The party seeks British withdrawal from Northern Ireland and unification of the whole island under a new socialist government with equal rights for women and total separation of church and state. Gerry Adams is the president of Sinn Fein. The party received 10 percent of the vote in the last Westminster election.

Progressive Unionist Party. Loyalist political party with links to the loyalist paramilitary Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF). The party draws less than 5 percent of the vote and is represented only on a few local city councils. The previous Lord Mayor of Belfast, Hugh Smyth, is a PUP member. The party leaders are Billy Hutchinson and David Ervine. Both men have served sentences for terrorist-related offenses.

Ulster Democratic Party. Loyalist political party with links to the Ulster Defense Force (UDF) and the Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF). The party leader is Gary McMichael, whose father was killed by the IRA. The party has less than 5 percent support and has elected less than five local councilors.

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

NORTHERN IRELAND -- 17 MEMBERS

UUP Roy Beggs

DUP Rev. Ian Paisley

UUP Clifford Forsythe

DUP Peter Robinson

UUP A. Cecil Walker, JP

UUP Rev. Martin Smyth

SDLP Dr. Joe Hendron

UKU Robert McCartney, OC

SDLP Edward K. McGrady

UUP Ken Maginnis

SDLP John Hume

UUP Rt. Hon. James Molyneaux, JP

UUP William Ross

SDLP Seamus Mallon

UUP Rt. Hon. John Taylor

DUP Rev. Robert McCrea

UUP David Trimble

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