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AMERICAN IRISH NEWSLETTER

Political Education Committee

Volume 19, Number 3

March 1994

Media Advances British-Irish Peace Process

The mainstream US media is to be commended for the extensive coverage it gave the recent visit of Mr. Gerry Adams, President of Sinn Fein. The media advanced the peace process by focusing public attention on the nationalist point of view, a view long denied the public via British government control of the news, particularly that news disseminated by the Associated Press wire services.

We urge the media, with all its power to influence change, not to let this progress die. We urge the media to send their people to the north to provide continuous first-hand coverage of civil and human rights abuses.

We urge the media to use our resources. The PEC can provide contacts with respected civil and human rights leaders, such as: Rev. Des Wilson, the Bishop Tutu of Ireland, and representatives of the Committee on the Administration of Justice.

We reprint below the 2/5/94 *New York Times* editorial.

THE LION WHINES ABOUT MR. ADAMS

When President Clinton granted a two-day visa to Gerry Adams, the wise course for an unhappy British Government would have been to cut its losses and dismiss the matter as an internal U.S. affair -- as the British initially seemed to be doing. Then early this week, Prime Minister John Major and his Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd, inexplicably threw a fit. The U.S. Ambassador to Britain was summoned to Downing Street for a harsh lecture, and the British public was treated to the peculiar TV spectacle of a Larry King interview on CNN with Mr. Adams, in which an actor spoke the Sinn Fein leader's responses.

Under British law Mr. Adams can be seen but not heard on television, and instead of challenging this bizarre censorship, CNN cravenly chose to comply. A similar ban in the Irish Republic was allowed to lapse on Jan. 19, and Mr. Adams's voice can now be heard by many Britons with access to Irish radio and TV. If Mr. Major is indeed serious about his Government's new peace initiative on Northern Ireland, he should also be ending censorship and encouraging debate. The British media, however, lack our safeguards for free speech, making them much more vulnerable to politicians' whims. In this case it seems appropriate to ask just what the old lion is afraid of.

Mr. Adams made the most of British mistakes without expressing a single new thought. For millions of Americans, the novelty was in seeing a live Irishman express such views. In several TV interviews and five press conferences, his equivocations about the Irish Republican Army's indiscriminate killings fully justified Washington's barring his entry on eight previous occasions.

When he applied last week, however, there were new circumstances. Britain and the Irish Republic had jointly appealed to Sinn Fein in December to renounce violence and take part in a new peace initiative, the first break in the ice. Meanwhile Mr. Major, his hand forced by leaks, confirmed that his Government was already engaging in secret discussions with Mr. Adams -- a development that makes hypocritical the British outburst against Mr. Adams's visit. Apparently Mr. Major considers it appropriate to talk to Mr. Adams in secret, but inappropriate for the United States to allow him to talk to its people in public.

Senators Edward Kennedy and Daniel Patrick Moynihan joined 38 other members of Congress in urging Mr. Clinton to allow Mr. Adams to take part in a New York conference attended by other Northern Ireland leaders, notably John Hume, who speaks for the province's nonviolent nationalist majority. And so the President, for principled as well as political reasons, let Mr. Adams in.

Americans are rightly appalled by violence in Northern Ireland, carried out by Protestant para-military groups as well as I.R.A. gangs, some with criminal sidelines. Yet censorship and visa blacklists are not the answer. Mr. Clinton was right to let Americans hear and question Gerry Adams.

Newsbits by Kathy Regan

On February 4, the PEC commenced a phone call/letter campaign to President Clinton thanking him for granting a visa to Gerry Adams and urging he take a public role in the peace process (AIN-PEC, 2/4/94).

The role of the security forces in Northern Ireland is strongly criticized in an official United States report to be shown to President Clinton before his meeting with John Major this month. The report gives details of recent killings and judicial proceedings. In *Political Killings in Northern Ireland*, published today, Amnesty International accuses the Government of collusion between government forces and groups like the banned Ulster Defense Association. . . . And the Belfast-based Committee on the Administration of Justice has this week published a report on allegations of harassment in connection with incidents involving the use of lethal force. All three reports note the killing of some 350 people by the security forces since 1969. Most were Catholics, about half of whom were unarmed. Up to 1991, 21 security force members were prosecuted for killings using firearms. Nineteen were found not guilty, one was convicted of manslaughter and given a suspended

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Our View

As we have often stated, it was the media coverage of injustice in South Africa that made apartheid an issue. Media coverage of that injustice outraged the public who responded by pressuring government leaders worldwide. Government leaders responded, often reluctantly, by pressuring the South African government. It was years of constant pressure from activists that influenced the media to focus on South Africa.

Hopefully, after years of pressuring the media, we have reached that phase in the Irish struggle where the media will start providing frequent and fair coverage.

The British-Irish conflict received massive media attention during Mr. Gerry Adams's recent trip to the US. During his 48-hour visit Adams presented the nationalist view to the American people, many of whom now have a different perception of the conflict. Adams has advanced the peace process. We are grateful to President Clinton for making Adams's visit possible.

By covering Adams, the media, and public, learned first-hand what the PEC has been saying all along: Associated Press reports from Britain about the north are controlled by the British government and cannot be trusted.

Since late 1992 we have made significant progress. We have seen, on different occasions, media coverage of an American President addressing the British/Irish conflict, a first, and we have experienced a dramatic increase of coverage by the media. We are on the road to peace.

*But now the real battle for American public opinion begins. The work of the PEC is now more important than ever. We must all do our share to win over American public opinion to the nationalist view and to keep that support. No time is better than now to reach out to the public. Public interest is high, due not only to Mr. Adam's visit, but also to the movie, **In the Name of the Father**. You can do your share by complying with the **Special Requeste** in our newsletters. Those of you who want to play a more active role should call the PEC at 800 777-6807.*

Happy St. Patrick's Day To All!

Clinton Resolution

In the February newsletter we included a resolution urging President Clinton to appoint a peace envoy to Northern Ireland. We asked members to have the resolution adopted by their local, county or state government, organizations and student bodies.

Get the resolution adopted! Let us make sure President Clinton knows we are serious in our desire for peace in Ireland.

So please! Contact your local legislator today and get the process started. It requires no big sacrifice, yet its effect is powerful. If you have any questions, or would like another copy of the resolution, give us a call. Be sure to forward copies of adopted resolutions to the PEC.

Political Education Committee (PEC)

founded 1975

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Let The Members Know What You Are Doing!

If you conduct any activities that promote our issues, let us know. We want to report them in the newsletter for the benefit of all members. Keep your letter to us brief. Your ideas will encourage other members to do the same, which will make the PEC-AIEF even more effective.

For example, do you: copy and distribute articles from the newsletter; organize letter-writing/phone call campaigns from our *Action Requests* or *Telephone Hotline*; reproduce our newsletter and distribute it; set up PEC information/membership tables at events; have you organized a telephone chain? **Let us know whatever you do, no matter how insignificant it may appear.**

From The North

by Oliver Kearney

Director, Equality Working Group

On December 15, 1993 the British Prime Minister and the Irish Taoiseach issued a Joint Declaration from 10 Downing Street. Their stated objectives were to create an agreed framework for peace in Ireland and to remove the causes of conflict.

The British government reaffirmed their commitment to democracy by declaring that they will uphold the right of a majority of the people living in Northern Ireland to maintain the Partition of Ireland. In a subsequent statement at Westminster, the British Prime Minister said the Joint Declaration "fully protects the position of the majority in Northern Ireland, and means that change could only come about with their consent."

The Irish government affirmed that the people of Ireland as a whole have the democratic right to self-determination, and the British government agreed. However, the Irish government declared that the right to self-determination can only be exercised subject to the right of a majority in Northern Ireland to maintain the Partition of Ireland.

They said it would be wrong to attempt to impose a united Ireland because any political system which is refused allegiance, or rejected on grounds of identity by a significant minority, will be fundamentally unstable. In a statement to Dail Eireann, the Irish Taoiseach said the Declaration helped to create a "level playing field," adding, "It is the essence, indeed the unique virtue of the democratic system, that it allows peaceful competition between conflicting ideals and provides a civilized method of settling conflicts and disputes."

At the Downing Street Press Conference, the British Prime Minister declared, "the lives of the past generation in Northern Ireland have been blighted by the violence and hatred." He implicitly attributed full responsibility for 25 years of violence in Northern Ireland to nationalist paramilitaries. The Irish Taoiseach reinforced this by

asserting that the violence of unionist paramilitaries was essentially reactive and would cease when nationalist violence ended.

On the same day, a columnist in the unionist *Belfast Telegraph* commented that the objective of unionist violence is to maintain Protestant/unionist ascendancy, and added that the suggestion that unionist violence is reactive is not only factually wrong and insulting to the Catholic community in Northern Ireland, but constitutes verbal terrorism.

Such verbal terrorism has been a prominent feature of unionist politics throughout the lifetime of the Northern Ireland state. Nevertheless, the Irish Taoiseach subscribed to it at the Downing Street Press Conference, and again later that evening in Dail Eireann.

The Taoiseach also declared that the nationalist community had suffered neglect and discrimination for 50 years and said it was the duty of the Irish Government to ensure this never happens again. He did not specify to which 50 years in the lifetime of the Northern Ireland state he was referring; or indicate when or how his government will exercise the duty of ensuring it will not be repeated.

Evidently, the British and Irish governments share a selective interpretation of the principles of democracy; and an equally selective interpretation of the causes of conflict, and the nature and origins of violence in Northern Ireland.

Both governments seem oblivious to the fact that principles of democracy have not prevailed in Northern Ireland throughout the lifetime of the state; and that, since the state's creation for the purpose of ensuring unionist ascendancy, the lives of every generation of nationalists have been

Special Request #1 Join Our Telephone Network

During the battle over Mr. Adams's visa, the PEC conducted a last-minute phone call campaign that generated many calls to the White House. Senator Kennedy's office made an urgent request for the phone calls. After Adams returned to Ireland, the PEC initiated another phone call campaign to thank President Clinton and to request he appoint the special envoy. We organized the phone network through our State Directors and GAT members. They called members in their area who in turn called other people. Our phone call campaign proved to be very effective. Bob West, Illinois State Director, advises us that one member got 201 people to call the White House.

We must expand the network. Obviously, there will be a greater need for the telephone network as the peace process advances.

TO JOIN OUR TELEPHONE NETWORK, send us, or call in (800-777-6807), your name and address, and a daytime and evening phone number, **with the time you can be reached**, at both numbers. Also indicate if you will call other people.

blighted by officially-structured institutional and physical violence, underwritten by Westminster and ignored by Dublin.

If the two governments are, indeed, intent on creating "a framework for peace" and "removing the causes of conflict," rather than merely posturing for the media, they must begin the process by dismantling the systems of state-controlled institutional and physical violence, abuse of human rights, and pervasive Economic Apartheid which have been constructed to prevent the peaceful and natural evolution of the nationalist community in Northern Ireland.

Something more is required than politically self-serving Declarations from Downing Street in 1993 or 1969 or 1920.



Gerry Adams addresses overflow crowd at Sheraton Center in New York City on February 1.

Adams And Media Advance Peace Process

by Stephanie Finucane

After eight attempts over the last 20 years, Gerry Adams, President of Sinn Fein, was finally granted a 48-hour visa to enter the US on February 1. He was invited by the National Committee on American Foreign Policy to attend a peace conference on Northern Ireland, organized by the chairman, William Flynn, head of Mutual of America.

Also in attendance were John Hume, leader of the nationalist SDLP, and John Alderdice, president of the unionist Northern Ireland Alliance Party, which promotes the status quo. John Molyneux, leader of the Ulster Unionist party (UUP), and Rev. Ian Paisley, head of the Democratic Unionist party (DUP), refused to attend the peace conference.

The conference was filled to capacity, including many influential citizens, and a large turnout by the media. PEC president John Finucane, who was in attendance, questioned Mr. Alderdice about Protestant support for a united Ireland. C-Span aired the entire conference on several occasions, being seen by many millions of people.

The English government and their supporters in the media are furious at President Clinton for not continuing the policy of censorship practiced by previous presidential administrations.

During his whirlwind stay, Adams was afforded massive media attention. Besides national coverage on major news networks like NBC, ABC, CNN and CBS, Adams appeared on "Larry King Live" (CNN), Charlie Rose Show (PBS), and MacNeil/Lehrer Hour (PBS).

The push for the Adams visa was led by U.S. Senators Edward Kennedy (D-MA), Christopher Dodd (D-CT), Daniel Moynihan (D-NY), and John Kerry (D-MA), with the support of the leadership of the Ad Hoc Congressional Committee on Irish Affairs. The National Security advisor to the President also favored the visa. Leading the opposition were House Speaker, Thomas Foley from Spokane, Washington, the English

Ambassador, the State Department and CIA. And the tactics got dirty. On Friday, January 29, it was reported that 3 explosive devices were planted in San Diego by the "California IRA". Calls to a local TV station stated that if the visa was not granted there would be more bombs. The explosives turned out to be dummy grenades and there is suspicion that the Brits were involved.

This political battle brought out the best in the Irish American community. Finally, we worked together: ordinary folks, Members of Congress, activist organization leaders, corporate and labor leaders, media people, and we won. The ongoing letter-writing campaigns, and the last-minute phone calls to the White House, paid off. The PEC activated its phone chain a second time beginning Friday evening, January 29, lasting into Saturday, in response to a urgent request from Senator Kennedy's office. Clinton ok'd the visa on Sunday, January 30, stating that the visa would help advance the peace process.

Adams, thanks to President Clinton and the media, advanced the peace process, because for the first time Americans have been able to get a clear look at the situation in Ireland, and have learned that there are two sides to the story. And the more the public knows, the closer the Irish people get to a united Ireland.

The full text of Gerry Adams's statement at the conference is available from the PEC for \$1.00. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Newsbits *con't from page 1*

sentence. Only one, a soldier, was convicted of murder. Although given a life sentence, he served just over two years and was reinstated in the army (*The Guardian*, 2/9/94).

A MAJORITY in the Republic believes Sinn Fein should be given clarification of the Downing Street Declaration, according to an opinion poll published yesterday. Those surveyed placed the onus for clarification on Taoiseach Albert Reynolds and British Prime Minister John Major. Support for the clarification was strongest among the middle class and people in Dublin and Connacht-Ulster (*Irish News*, 2/9/94).

The British army and RUC have left the Catholic community exposed to sectarian killers, a major [Amnesty International] human rights report claims today (*Irish News*, 2/9/94).

A group of Catholic priests has claimed that, if the British government is serious about peace, it should commit itself to withdrawing from the north and "restoring sovereignty to the Irish people". The Clergy for Justice group has produced its own peace proposals alongside a formal response to the Downing Street declaration, which, it said, was unacceptable as a vehicle for reconciliation (*Irish News*, 2/9/94).

Virginia State Director Appointed

Member Joseph Joyce has been appointed PEC Virginia State Director. Members in Virginia are urged to offer their assistance to Joe. He can be reached at phone# 804-994-2218 or 32111 Discovery Lane, Hanover, VA, 23069



Political Education Committee
Founded 1975

American Ireland Education Foundation
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Reproduce & Distribute

Dear Friend of Ireland,

If you believe as we do that it is time to bring peace and justice to Northern Ireland, I invite you to please join the PEC. At a cost of just \$25 a year, you will receive 12 newsletters, one each month, plus access to our 24-hour, 7 day-a-week, telephone hotline and valuable information about the British-Irish conflict. You will also help us continue to lobby our government, business and media representatives so that our voices are heard and our opinions are not misrepresented.

One of our most pressing concerns now, in light of the recent visit to the US by Mr. Gerry Adams, president of Sinn Fein, which attracted massive media attention, is to keep our mainstream media focused on Northern Ireland. Continued media focus on Ireland will bring pressure on all parties to the conflict, to make sure the peace process works.

For too long, as injustice has mounted atop injustice, only one side of the story has been told. But as the winds of change now blow, there is a call for us to turn the tables. In short, there is now a genuine opportunity for us to help bring peace and justice to Northern Ireland.

This is an opportunity that is a privilege. And we must seize it!

The PEC-AIEF, founded in 1975, is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3), mainstream American organization. We seek the help of all people in working through the democratic process to bring about the peaceful reunification of Ireland.

Please join us in this mission. Your skills and energy are sorely needed. If you have any questions, call 1 800 777-6807, Tuesday through Saturday.

In Unity,

John J. Finucane
National President

P.S. Please write or call President Bill Clinton (White House, Washington, DC 20500 - phone# (202) 456-1111). Include in your message, *I thank you for granting a visa to Mr. Gerry Adams and urge that you lift the visa ban on him. I respectfully request that you appoint your promised special envoy to Northern Ireland.* Your letter or call represents the views of 1,000 people. **That's clout!** Urge your family and friends to write or call him.

YES, I want to join the PEC to help bring peace and justice to Ireland.

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British Justice: Round & Round We Go

by Sandy Carlson

British High Court Justice Brian Hutton's acquittal in December 1993 of the two Royal Marine Commandos who killed Fergal Caraher and wounded his brother, Miceal, is the most recent example of Britain's empty circle justice-system.

The empty-circle works like this: 1. an outrage occurs: 2. the public demands that a culprit be punished: 3. the British find scapegoats and display them publicly: 4. the public is satisfied justice has been done: 5. the scapegoats are let go after the smoke dies down, whether they were guilty or not.

The scapegoats are either Irish people who lose decades of their lives behind bars for crimes they did not commit or British agents who never pay adequately for their crimes. This is a two-ring circus, complete with wigs and gowns. The circle is empty because the fundamental question, what caused or inspired the outrage, is not addressed.

The Caraher shooting, which occurred in Cullyhanna, South Armagh, received little public attention until the Cullyhanna Justice group sponsored an independent, public inquiry into the December 1990 shooting.

The arrest of Lance Corporal Richard Elkington (23) and Marine Andrew Callaghan (21) came in response to the international publicity surrounding the June, 1991, inquiry and the support it gathered for the Carahers.

Media coverage about the shooting again subsided after the arrest until the trial, which Belfast's *Irish News* dutifully reported. The British thus completed the first three steps around the circle.

To complete step 4, the British had to satisfy diverse constituencies in their public. Clearly, they had to appear to be meting out justice to satisfy the international outcry for justice. However, they

had to do so without alienating their conservative and unionist supporters at home, who would be angered if they thought British soldiers were being punished.

So the court heard out the witnesses for both parties, dismissed the claims made by the (nationalist) people of Cullyhanna, and acquitted the soldiers.

Although several local witnesses together reported the incident to the police after they saw a lawyer, Judge Hutton dismissed the significance of their testimony because, he said, their seeing a solicitor suggested to him that they wanted to suppress evidence to the detriment of the soldiers. Local witnesses consistently denied the claims the soldiers made during their trial that there was a confrontation between the Carahers and the British armed forces and that the brothers tried to injure the soldiers after they drove off.

Hutton said that the discovery of uniform fibers on the hood of the Caraher's car and the broken window on the drivers side was evidence enough to partially support the soldier's claim that there had been a confrontation between them and the brothers. (Hutton's ruling did not take into account the facts that the two accused had met with army legal counsel even before the police questioned them, that they had gone back to the crime scene even while it was under investigation, and that the soldiers had picked up the spent casings so that the forensic team could not determine the direction of the shots.) Thus, Hutton accepted the soldiers' word over the word of the Cullyhanna community.

Hutton sent Elkington and Callaghan home. Steps four and five - and the circle - completed.

The cases of the Guildford Four the Birmingham Six, the Maguire Seven, Judith Ward, and the internees are earlier

examples of innocent people who were imprisoned for crimes they did not commit so that the British government could quell the British public's demand for an Irish scapegoat. Justice has consistently been less important than public image. Indeed, the British judiciary's refusal to reconsider the Birmingham and Guildford cases, even though the IRA said those charged had not done it and were actually unknown to the IRA, illustrates this point neatly. Who pays is not important: that someone does, is.

On the one hand, the British government's willingness to plea bargain with loyalist terrorist and British agent Brian Nelson, in spite of his role in arms smuggling and the murder of northern Catholics and prominent nationalists, suggests a desire to appear to be meting out justice while preserving the good will of the unionist community.

The cases of Cameron Hastie, who was given an 18-month suspended sentence for colluding with loyalists to kill Catholics, is another exercise around the same ring in a circus of judicial illusions. Hastie was immediately reinstated in the army as an instructor in Scotland.

Why are the British prepared to force men and women through these fiery rings? Why must Irish men and women pay with lives for crimes they did not commit, whereas British agents pay with weeks or months for crimes they did commit?

To what political end have the British crippled their judicial system? Is it as the British army officer Frank Kitson said in 1971 - and reaffirmed in 1991 - that "the law should be used as just another weapon in the Government's arsenal,... little more than a propaganda cover for the disposal of unwanted members of the public,"? (Low Intensity Operations, p. 69)

BE A PEACEMAKER!

**Support the
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Peace, MacBride And The Churches

by Albert R. Doyle, *Vice President*

We have in the past been critical of the churches, the Catholic Church in particular, for failing to speak out against the injustices of Northern Ireland and speak out for the MacBride Principles of Fair Employment. We know that our successes in promoting the Principles in the U.S. have given real hope to the people of Northern Ireland who have been the victims of the British-created system of discrimination. The U.S. Catholic Conference (USCC), the voice of the American Bishops, which has taken strong stands against injustice in many international areas, has avoided Northern Ireland except for selective, stern denunciations of violence.

We are glad to report that the winds of change may be blowing in the aisles. In November 1993 Archbishop John Roach, on behalf of the USCC and probably at the urging of the Irish government and hierarchy, endorsed the idea of a peace process involving all parties. "It is not enough to be against violence... We must be for concrete steps to address the injustice, divisions and despair which haunt Northern Ireland," said the Bishop.

This new approach by the American Bishops was not new to the Church as it echoed the words of the Pope on his visit to Ireland.

Mid-December there followed the Joint Declaration of the British and Irish Governments which promised unexplained "processes" which would hopefully lead to real political change in Northern Ireland. Presumably encouraged by the Declaration, in mid-January there next appeared what the *New York Times* called "an unusual joint statement" by Catholic and Protestant churches of Northern Ireland and the U.S. Signatories included Cardinal Cahal Daly and the leaders of the Anglican, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches of the north, as well as the USCC, the Presbyterian Church USA, Episcopal Church USA, and the United

Methodist Church. The statement of the church leaders included the following:

"Many Americans support the MacBride Principles, as amplified, as good faith, nonviolent means to promote fair employment. We urge that any support of these amplified principles, which offer positive values and focus on fair employment, be joined with continued support for strong fair employment measures and an active commitment to investment and job creation..."

Now that may seem like faint praise, but given the sources - particularly the Catholic ones - it is a real step forward - we hope! Perhaps even more remarkable, the statement of the churchmen went on to support "the need for a political settlement..." - something we have been saying for a long time.

We look forward to the support of the churches for the MacBride campaign in the U.S. and recommend all MacBride activists use this joint document to solicit the help of local church leaders. With their help we may yet see real peace with justice in Northern Ireland.

Congratulations Letter Writers

In the September 93 issue of the newsletter we printed an article by Rev. Des Wilson which advised you that the Presbyterian Church USA and the US Catholic Conference were planning a meeting in the fall of 1993 for the purpose of weakening the MacBride Principles campaign. We asked you to write both groups. We are advised the meeting did not take place. Your letters had an impact on the above decision by the four churches. The power of the pen!

Special Request #2

We have received many letters and calls from people who, after hearing Gerry Adams tell his story about Northern Ireland, decided they want to help. Certainly there are many people across this country that feel the same, but who do not know who to contact. **WE MUST REACH OUT TO THESE PEOPLE!**

In this newsletter we have only one *Reproduce & Distribute* (R&D) article (a letter). It is designed to enable you to recruit new members and supporters for the PEC and our important work.

We ask you to make copies of the R&D and distribute them to people, Irish and non-Irish alike. There will be many opportunities during the month of March due to St. Patrick's Day (dances, concerts, festivals, etc.).

WE ALSO ASK THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE MORE ACTIVE to setup information tables at the different events. Give us a call (800 777-6807) and we will send you copies of newsletters, membership brochures, and copies of two excellent brochures we have available about the north. We would appreciate a small donation to help defray our costs for printing and postage. You can also make copies of past R&D articles from the newsletter.

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Action Requests

Write the letters below preferably in your own words or as is. Have friends, organizations, business associates, etc., do the same. We also provide phone numbers, when appropriate, for people who prefer to call.

Action Request #1 URGENT!

The following is an Urgent Request! The granting of a visa to Gerry Adams was a major victory for the supporters of peace with justice in Ireland. In doing this President Clinton faced much high level opposition. His efforts must be duly recognized if we are to keep him involved in the peace process. Please get family and friends to write. Write or call: Honorable Bill Clinton, The President, White House, Washington D.C., 20500 -- phone# (202) 456-1111.

Dear President Clinton:

I thank you for granting a visa to Sinn Fein President, Gerry Adams. In doing so you have advanced the peace process. I respectfully request that you continue to take a public role in the Northern Ireland peace process. Further, I ask that you appoint a special envoy and lift the visa ban on Mr. Adams.

Sincerely,

Action Request #2

In light of the recent U.S visit of Sinn Fein President, Gerry Adams, we must continue to keep the pressure on our government leaders to help bring a just peace to Ireland. It is of the utmost importance that we do not let the current momentum for the peace process fade. Given the importance of this message we ask that you write or call your two U.S. Senators. Write or call: Honorable (your U.S. Senator(s) name). U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C., 20510 -- phone# (202) 224-3121.

Dear Senator (last name):

I respectfully request that you urge President Clinton to appoint a special envoy to Northern Ireland, and to lift the visa ban on Sinn Fein President, Mr. Gerry Adams. These steps will help facilitate the peace process there. For accurate information about Northern Ireland, please contact the American Irish PEC at (914) 947-2726.

Sincerely,

Did You Send Your Donation?

In response to our recent solicitation sent to you in the mail? We need your support so that we can meet the increased demands placed on the PEC because of the peace process unfolding in Ireland.

Keep Your Membership Up-To-Date

If the 4 digit number on the first line of your address label below is 9403 or less, your membership has expired.

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Political Education Committee (PEC--AIEF)

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If you give a donation only and would like to receive the newsletter check here .

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Make checks payable to PEC-AIEF and mail to PEC--AIEF, 18 Route 9W, Fairgrounds Plaza, West Haverstraw, NY 10993 -- Phone number (914) 947-2726.

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9403 - March 1994