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DJW/13/11

FROM: D J WATKINS  
DIRECTOR CENT SEC  
DATE: 13 NOVEMBER 1995

CC: PS/Secretary of State (B&L) - B  
PS/Sir John Wheeler (DFP,B&L) - B  
PS/Michael Ancram (DENI,B&L) - B  
PS/Baroness Denton (DED,DANI&L) - B  
PS/Mr Moss (DOE,DHSS&L) - B  
PS/PUS (B&L) - B  
PS/Sir David Fell - B  
Mr Thomas - B  
Mr Legge - B  
Mr Semple, DFP  
Mr Carvill, DENI  
Mr Loughran, DED  
Mr Spence, DOE  
Mr Bell - B  
Mr Wood (B&L) - B  
Mr Maccabe - B  
Mrs Brown - B  
Mr Stephens - B  
Mr Gamble, DED  
Mr Todd, IFI  
Mr Mallon, IDB  
Mr Dalton, FCO  
Mr Lamont, RID - B  
Ms Checksfield - B  
Mr McKervill - B  
Miss Steele - B  
Mrs Butler, FCO  
Mr Woods - B  
Mr McAleer - B  
Mr Gibbons - B  
Mr Westmacott, Washington  
Mr Alexander, NIB  
Mr Reid, BIS New York  
Mr McCartney - B  
PS/Lady Mayhew - B  
Chief Superintendent R Long  
Superintendent H Irvine

Mr Maxwell - B

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S VISIT TO NORTHERN IRELAND

1. Thank you for your minute of 10 November.
2. I shall be interested to hear how the US Embassy in London reacts to the messages described in paragraph 3 of your note.

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I and other colleagues shall remain interested in continuing detailed accounts of developments as they occur.

3. A couple of points on the annex programme. First, what takes the President 90 minutes to go from Aldergrove to Mackies? I understand that he will not simply dash from a plane to a car, but 90 minutes still seems excessive: have we any inkling of any private-enterprise activities they might have in mind?
4. Second, I am distinctly unhappy at the idea of a walk on the peace line. At a meeting last month the Secretary of State drew attention to the likelihood of televised coverage of a walk along Belfast's Berlin wall, with all the negative imagery that this contains. It may be that the Americans are rather simplistically imagining that images of pre-ceasefire peace wall conditions can be juxtaposed with images of the peace-to-all-men switching on of the Christmas tree lights. But the lunch time news in Europe and Breakfast TV in the USA will have only the peace line to focus on. There is also the nice question as to which side of the peace line he will walk on (unless we can find somewhere where he can do both sides). I find this a thoroughly bad idea, and I think the Americans need to be told so quickly and firmly. The comments of others as soon as possible would be appreciated.

MV.

D J WATKINS

SC 28151

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MM/13/11

FROM: M T H MAXWELL  
AS CENT SEC

DATE: 10 NOVEMBER 1995

cc PS/Secretary of State (B&L) - B  
PS/Sir John Wheeler (DFP,B&L) - B  
PS/Michael Ancram (DENI,B&L) - B  
PS/Baroness Denton (DED,DANI&L) - B  
PS/Mr Moss (DOE,DHSS&L) - B  
PS/PUS (B&L) - B  
PS/Sir David Fell - B  
Mr Thomas - B  
Mr Legge - B  
Mr Semple, DFP  
Mr Carvill, DENI  
Mr Loughran, DED  
Mr Spence, DOE  
Mr Bell - B  
Mr Wood (B&L) - B  
Mr Maccabe - B  
Mrs Brown - B  
Mr Stephens - B  
Mr Gamble, DED  
Mr Todd, IFI  
Mr Mallon, IDB  
Mr Dalton, FCO  
Mr Lamont, RID, FCO - B  
Ms Checksfield - B  
Mr McKervill - B  
Miss Steele - B  
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Mr Woods - B  
Mr McAleer - B  
Mr Gibbons - B  
Mr Westmacott, Washington  
Mr Alexander, NIB  
Mr Reid, BIS New York  
Mr McCartney - B  
PS/Lady Mayhew - B  
Chief Superintendent R Long  
Superintendent H Irvine

MR WATKINS - B

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S VISIT TO NORTHERN IRELAND:  
30 NOVEMBER/1 DECEMBER

1. We had a further VCR meeting with FCO colleagues this afternoon to discuss arrangements for the forthcoming visit of President Clinton to Northern Ireland.

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## Programme

2. Mr Woods produced the latest version of the Clinton's programme which he had obtained from the BBC who in turn had received it from the White House Press Office. A copy is attached at Annex A. It is broadly similar to the programme advised to us by the recce team. You will note, however, that a walk on the Belfast peaceline is a possibility (5 question marks), and that a walk on the walls of Derry has been included (we were told by the RUC this morning that the Secret Service had ruled this out). Mrs Clinton may also have one or two separate events, and we have some proposals to put to the Americans. The reception is later than we had proposed, but I believe that we can cope with this. The only certainty about the programme, and the timings, is that they are likely to change again.

## Belfast Reception November 30

3. I briefed Mr Dalton on the Secretary of State's views on the reception on the evening of 30 November and asked him to relay them to Mr Imbrie at the US Embassy (London). These are:
- it was necessary for the Secretary of State to host the reception;
  - we could arrange for the President to meet whatever individuals he chose, if necessary in private;
  - we would work closely with the Americans in drawing up the guest list. We would not seek to exclude guests for political reasons (ie Adams/McGuinness);
  - we would arrange the reception "Garden Party" style with the Secretary of State introducing the President to the guests who would be collected in groups. The President could dip in and out of the reception to meet the political parties as it suited him;

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- we ought to think of some background entertainment (the Ulster Orchestra jazz band is one possibility);
  - we should not agree to a double reception suggested by the Americans. The reception should be in one venue at Queens;
  - 500-600 guests might be invited.
4. I stressed to Mr Dalton that we needed an early decision on this matter so that we could issue invitations. Lady Mayhew had pointed out that the guest list should be gender-proofed.

## Security

5. We had a meeting with ACC Lewis this morning. While the detailed security arrangements for the visit will be horrendous the RUC are reasonably relaxed about their relationship with the Secret Service. Some of the problems outlined in Lt Col Williams letter of 27 October about the carrying of weapons seem to have been resolved.

## Mrs Clinton's programme

6. Lady Mayhew has given me some suggestions for Mrs Clinton's programme which I will pass to both FCO (for onward transmission to the US Embassy in London) and to Kathy Stephens.

## Liaison Arrangements

7. Miss Steele, Mr Woods, Chief Inspector McGuigan and I will now be meeting daily to take forward the detailed arrangements for the visit. FCO representatives will be coming to Northern Ireland on Wednesday 15 November to discuss in detail certain aspects of the visit.

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## Staff Deployments

8. We will decide the use of staff resources next week.

## Conclusion

9. We are now on "countdown". There will be a lot of work involved in putting all the various arrangements in place. Life will be fun for all. I will keep you informed of developments.

[Signed: MTHM]

M T H MAXWELL  
CENTRAL SECRETARIAT

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ANNEX A

Thursday 30 November

0900 Arrive at Aldergrove

1030 Arrive at Mackies on Springfield Road  
Clinton to make his keynote speech here  
(speech around 1100)  
Walk on peaceline ?????

1200 Visit to East Belfast Enterprise Centre

1315 Fly on DC9 from City Airport

1400 Arrive at Eglinton Airport and on to Guildhall;  
Announce Tip O'Neill chair for Magee College  
Small reception  
Northwest Speech  
Walkabout in Guildhall Square  
Walk on walls of Derry

1645 Back to Belfast on DC9

1730 Back to Europa  
(President likely to make calls re Budget)

1915 Turn on Christmas tree lights at City Hall  
Unveil statue inside City Hall

2030 Whitla Hall, Queens  
Meetings with political leaders

To overnight in Belfast at Europa and to fly to Dublin Friday 1  
leaving Europa at 0830 - arriving Dublin at 0930

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Hilary Clinton

Hilary will be with the President for most of the visit - there may be one/two separate events. Possibly a visit to Townsend Street Presbyterian Church and/or Royal Victoria Hospital.

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