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MM/12/11

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, DCE
 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
 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

copy to

Chief Executive
 Deputy Chief Executive
 Executive Director
 by car
 Gen. Hamilton
 Brian Orlow

for format

[Signature] 12/11/95

Copy in Branch

MR WATKINS - B

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S VISIT TO NORTHERN IRELAND:
THE BELFAST TREELIGHTING CEREMONY

1. I had a meeting last night with Mr Brian Morrison, Head of Leisure Services, Belfast City Council, to discuss plans for the treelighting ceremony in Belfast on 30 November.

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2. Current plans envisage that the President will enter by the Donegall Square East entrance of the City Hall. He will meet the City fathers; sign the visitors' book; and then proceed out of the front entrance of the City Hall mounting a glass bullet-proofed stage at the very front of the building. The President would then address the assembled throng and eventually switch on the lights. There will be entertainment (in the form of John Anderson Big Band). The President may or may not physically visit the US war memorial which will be placed at the front of the City Hall, or he may mention it in his speech (timed for 10-15 minutes).
3. The Americans have suggested that the area closest to the President should be ticketed, although the Council does not believe that this would be feasible. There will also be big screens erected at the City Hall and further on down Donegall Place to facilitate those who cannot get close to the President.
4. A project team will be established under the Chairmanship of Mr Morrison to work out the detailed management of the event. We will be represented at the team meetings.
5. It is expected that a crowd of 30,000-50,000 will be at the City Hall and environs that evening. Traffic will be at a standstill. The staging of the event will also require the removal of gates in front of the City Hall and the traffic lights at the top of Donegall Place.
6. The event will be a spectacular one, probably the biggest that Belfast has ever seen. All we need now is a Christmas Tree!

[Signed: MTHM]

M T H MAXWELL
CENTRAL SECRETARIAT

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