WITHDRAWAL SHEET

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File Folder THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO EUROPE: IRELAND, UNITED KINGDOM AND NORMANDY 06/01/1984-06/10/1984 RICHARD S. BEAL (BINDER) (3 OF 3)

FOIA F02-071/1

Box Number 90542

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ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
28300	PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #26544; BIO PAR 8/5/2008 NLRRF02-071/1	1	5/11/1984	B1 B3 B6
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28308	PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #26554; BIO D 8/5/2008 NLRRF02-071/1	2	5/18/1984	B1 B3 B6

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

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(Robinson/RR)
May 30, 1984
2:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEERFIELD LUNCHEON TOAST
MONDAY, JUNE 4, 1984

President and Mrs. Hillery, Prime Minister and Mrs. FitzGerald, ladies and gentlemen:

Mrs. Reagan and I are delighted to welcome you here this afternoon. We hope to return the kind hospitality that has been extended to us from the moment we set foot on this Emerald Isle. By the way, I noticed that this house has a blue room, a coral room, and a gold room -- that reminds me of the White House back in Washington. As you may have seen when you visited Washington, Mr. Prime Minister, the White House is a good home for an Irishman. Every March 17th, I can honor St. Patrick by spending all day in the Green Room.

For Americans, the very mention of Ireland holds a magical sense of allure. It brings to mind images of green pastures overlooked by rugged hills; of wide lakes like Lake Conn and the Lake of Killarney; of busy village squares; of the graceful Georgian architecture here in Dublin.

Perhaps what strikes Americans most is this island's ancient history. More than eight centuries before Columbus discovered the New World, Irish monasteries were great centers of faith and learning. Scholars from all over Europe came to Ireland to study theology, philosophy, Greek, and Latin; and Irishmen created stunning illuminated manuscripts, including a book many consider the most beautiful ever made, the Book of Kells.

America, by contrast, is a young Nation. Only a few centuries have passed since the first settlers landed on our eastern shores. These hardy men and women, and those who followed them, came from virtually every nation on Earth. By 1900, nearly 4 million had come from Ireland alone. As those immigrants cleared land, built towns, and established legislatures, they created a new and distinctly American way of life -- yet they continued to cherish memories of their homelands. Today, Ireland and the United States therefore share a living bond: the many Irish people who have cousins in America, and the 40 million Americans of Irish descent who have a special place for this island in their hearts.

Our two countries share a second bond -- a bond of fundamental beliefs. Both our peoples esteem human liberty. Both cherish the blessing of peace. As Ireland works to foster international understanding in this troubled world, you have our admiration and support. We, in turn, pledge our unremitting efforts in the name of world peace and freedom.

Permit me to close on a personal note. My own family left Ireland for the United States more than 100 years ago. This return to the land of my ancestors -- the island where for so many centuries my people lived and worked and worshipped -- has moved me more deeply than I can say. As we draw our visit to a close, I know that many Irish-Americans who can't be here today are watching at home, and I want to try to express their deep affection for the people of this Island. Permit me to quote your great poet William Butler Yeats:

Wine comes in at the mouth
And love comes in at the eye;
That's all we shall know for truth
Before we grow old and die.
I lift the glass to my mouth,
I look at you, and I sigh.

President Hillery, Prime Minister FitzGerald, ladies and gentlemen: to the Republic of Ireland.

(Noonan/RR)
May 30, 1984
2:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE FROM IRELAND
DUBLIN
MONDAY, JUNE 4, 1984

President and Mrs. Hillery, Prime Minister and Mrs. FitzGerald, all my new friends: What a wonderful visit this has been for us, what a wonderful homecoming. Your country has given us a whole world of memories and images, from the gentle beauty of Galway to the busy hum of Dublin, from the peacefulness of Ballyporeen to the loveliness of sweet Shannon. You gave us "a hundred thousand welcomes." I won't try to say that in Gaelic, but I've mastered at least a bit of your native tongue. I now call Nancy "mavourneen." (muh-VOR-nyeen -- Irish for "my darling".)

Your warmth has touched our hearts. You have made this traveller feel like one of the family. But now it is time to say goodbye. And as I leave I feel such a tug, and I want to stay with you and laugh and talk some more. There is something in your country that makes the American Irish feel like exiles when they leave, as if they're leaving a part of themselves behind.

This is my third visit to your country. I remember my first, 35 years ago. I walked the streets of Dublin, and I went by the Abbey Theatre and the Gresham Hotel, and I strolled down O'Connell Street and saw the bullet marks on the old Post Office. And that night, I followed the sound of music to the entrance of a ballroom and peered in at a university dance. I saw the young men dressed in white tie and tails, and the young women in flowing gowns, and I watched them do a graceful waltz and I

wished the world would just slow down a little and make more room for such graciousness.

That's how Nancy and I feel today. We wish the world would just slow down so we could have more time with you.

When I came back to Ireland a few years ago, I went out to the West and saw the ruins of the chapel where St. Patrick raised the first cross on Irish soil. And nearby there was a well fed by underground springs from a hill far away -- and they told me it was a wishing well, so Nancy and I threw in some coins and made a wish -- and a few days ago, when we landed in Shannon again, our wish came true.

I want you to know Nancy and I made another wish this morning. We want to come back when my work is done in Washington. By my calculations that will be in January of 1989, though I understand there is some disagreement on that. But when I come back I'll be able to stay longer, and I hope I can see you all again . . .

[Now I know that some of you have expressed concern at some of the events of the past few days, some of the demonstrations and such. But please understand: I don't mind. It's in the nature of politics that sometimes we'll have profound disagreements on things -- and if you mean to play a part in the affairs of the world you've got to get used to the smack and flow of contending opinions. And it's a paradox, but it's because our two countries are so close that we can express our feelings with such passion and vigor. And that's as it should be. It's an expression of closeness.] We will never be far apart, Ireland

and America. We're tied by ties of blood, ties of history -- and by a natural affinity and affection.

America loves the Irish. I hope the Irish always love America. You are in our hearts forever, and as I leave this place I think of the words of a poem by one of your exiled sons.

> Pearly are the skies in the country of my fathers,
> Purple are thy mountains, home of my heart.
> Mother of my yearning, love of all my longings,
> Keep me in remembrance, long leagues apart.

I will keep you in my remembrance, long leagues apart -- and I will remember your warmth and your kindness forever.

Thank you and God bless you.

(Noonan/RR)
May 30, 1984
2:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: POINTE DU HOC
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 1984

We are here to mark that day in history when the Allied armies joined in battle to reclaim this continent to liberty. For 4 long years, much of Europe had been under a terrible shadow. Free nations had fallen, Jews cried out in the camps, millions cried out for liberation. Europe was enslaved, and the world prayed for its rescue. Here, in Normandy, the rescue began. Here the West stood, and fought against tyranny in a giant undertaking unparalleled in human history.

We stand on a lonely, windswept point on the northern shore of France. As I speak, the air is soft and full of sunlight. But 40 years ago at this moment, the air was dense with smoke and the cries of men, the air was filled with the crack of rifle fire and the roar of cannon. At dawn on the morning of the 6th of June, 1944, 225 American Rangers jumped off a British landing craft and ran to the bottom of these cliffs. Their mission was one of the most difficult and daring of the Invasion: to climb these sheer and desolate cliffs and take out the enemy guns. The Allies had been told that the mightiest of those guns were here, and they would be trained on the beaches to stop the Allied advance.

The Rangers looked up and saw the enemy soldiers at the edge of the cliffs shooting down at them with machine guns and throwing grenades. And the American Rangers began to climb. They shot rope ladders over the face of these cliffs and they began to pull themselves up. And when one Ranger would fall another would take his place, and when one rope was cut a Ranger

would grab another and begin his climb again. They climbed and shot back and held their footing; and in time the enemy pulled back; in time the Rangers held the cliffs; and soon, one by one, the Rangers pulled themselves over the top -- and in seizing the firm land at the top of these cliffs they began to seize back the continent of Europe.

Forty years ago as I speak they were fighting to hold these cliffs. They had radioed back and asked for reinforcements. They were told: There aren't any. But they did not give up. It was not in them to give up. They would not be turned back; they held the cliffs.

Two hundred twenty-five came here. After a day of fighting only 90 could still bear arms.

I stand here today before the survivors of that battle. These are the boys of Pointe du Hoc. These are the men who took the cliffs. These are the champions who helped free a continent; these are the heroes who helped end a war.

Gentlemen, I look at you and I think of the words of Stephen Spender's poem. You are men who in your "lives fought for life . . . and left the vivid air signed with (your) honor."

And I think I know what you're thinking right now. You're thinking, "But we were just part of a bigger effort, and everyone was brave that day."

Everyone was. The heroism of all the Allies of D-Day was boundless, but there was another quality to it, not only of size but of spirit.

Do you remember Bill Millin of the 51st Scottish Highlanders? Forty years ago today, British troops were pinned

down near a bridge outside Caen. They were waiting desperately for reinforcements, when suddenly they heard the sound of bagpipes wafting through the air. Some of them thought it was a dream. But they looked up, and there was Bill Millin with his bagpipes, marching at the head of the reinforcements, ignoring the smack of the bullets into the sand around him. Lord Lovat was with him -- Lord Lovat of England, leading his commandos. When he got to the bridge Lord Lovat calmly announced, "Sorry I'm a few minutes late." As if he'd been delayed by bad weather or a traffic jam. When in truth he'd just come from the bloody fighting on Sword Beach, which he and his men had just taken.

There was the young Frenchman, Michel de Vallavielle, who had been confined by the Germans in his home. When the Invasion began he defied the enemy patrols, broke the curfew, and ran to the beach to tell the Allied troops where the enemy guns were hidden.

There was Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin Vandervoort of the All American 82nd Airborne, who broke his leg when he parachuted on to French soil. So he commandeered a small farm cart and ordered his men to wheel him on to the battlefield.

There was the impossible valor of the Poles, who threw themselves between the enemy and the rest of Europe as the Invasion took hold. And the unsurpassed courage of the Canadians, the only troops who knew exactly what they would face when they hit the beaches. Two years before, their countrymen had been slaughtered at Dieppe. They knew what awaited them here, but they would not be deterred, and once they hit Juno Beach they never looked back.

The men of Normandy were part of a roll call of honor, with names that spoke of a pride as bright as the colors they bore: the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, Poland's 24th Lancers, the Royal Scots Fusiliers, the 2nd Ranger Battalion, the Yeomen of England's armoured divisions, the forces of Free France, the Regiment de Chars de Combat, the Screaming Eagles . . .

What inspired the men of the armies that met here? What impelled them to put all thought of self-preservation behind, and risk their lives to take these beaches and hold these cliffs?

It was faith and belief; it was loyalty and love. It was faith that what they were doing was right, faith that they fought for all humanity, faith that a just God would grant them mercy on this beachhead -- or the next. It was the deep knowledge (and pray God we have not lost it) that there is a profound moral difference between the use of force for liberation and the use of force for conquest. They were here to liberate, not to conquer, and so they did not doubt their cause. And they were right not to doubt.

They knew that some things are worth dying for -- that one's country is worth dying for and that democracy is worth dying for, because it is the most deeply honorable form of Government ever devised by man. They loved liberty and they were happy to fight tyranny. And they knew the people of their countries were behind them.

The Americans who fought here that morning knew that word of the Invasion was spreading through the darkness back home. And they knew in their hearts, though they could not know in fact, that in Georgia they were filling the churches at 4 a.m., and in

Kansas they were kneeling on their porches and praying, and in Philadelphia they were ringing the Liberty Bell.

Something else helped the men of D-Day. It was the rockhard belief that Providence would have a great hand in the events that would unfold here; that God was an ally in this great cause. And, so, the night before the Invasion, when Colonel Wolverton asked his parachute troops to kneel with him in prayer he told them: Do not bow your heads but look up so you can see God and ask His blessing in what we are about to do. And in another part of England that night General Mathew Ridgeway tossed on his cot and talked to his God and listened for the promise made to Joshua: "I will not fail thee nor forsake thee."

These are the things that impelled them; these are the things that shaped the unity of the West. And with that unity the West could not be stopped.

When the war was over there were lives to be rebuilt and governments to be returned to the people -- there were nations to be reborn and above all, there was a new peace to be assured. These were huge and daunting tasks. But the Allies summoned strength from the faith and belief and loyalty and love of those who fell here. And they rebuilt a new Europe together.

There was first a great reconciliation, not only of those who had been enemies in the war, but also of those nations which had been torn for centuries by rivalries of territory and religion and power. Those rivalries were interred on these beaches.

Inspired by the gallantry of the men who fought the war, the United States created the Marshall Plan to help rebuild our

allies and our former enemies. The Marshall Plan led to the Atlantic Alliance -- a great alliance that functions to this day as a shield for democracy and for prosperity.

In spite of our great efforts and our great successes, not all of what followed the end of the war was happy, or planned. Some of the countries that had been liberated were lost. The great sadness of that fact echoes down to our own time in the streets of Warsaw, Prague, and East Berlin. The Soviet troops that came to the center of this continent did not leave when peace came. They are there to this day, uninvited, unwanted, and unyielding almost 40 years after the war.

Because of this, Allied forces still stand on this continent. But our armies are here only to protect and defend democracy -- and never to take land that is not ours. The only land we hold is the graveyards where our heroes rest.

We in America have learned the bitter lessons of two world wars: that it is better to be here and ready to preserve and protect the peace, than to take blind shelter in our homes across the sea, rushing to respond only after freedom has been lost. We have learned that isolationism never was and never will be an acceptable response to tyrannical governments with expansionist intent.

But we try always to prepare for peace. That is why we maintain our defenses and that is why we have tried to negotiate the reduction of arms.

In truth there is no reconciliation we would welcome more than a reconciliation with the Soviet Union, so that together we can lessen the chance of conflict, now and forever.

I tell you from my heart that we in the United States do not want war. We want to wipe from the face of the Earth the terrible weapons man now has in his hands. I tell you we are ready to seize that beachhead -- but there must be some sign from the Soviet Union that they are willing to move forward, that they share our desire and love for peace, that they will give up the ways of conquest. There must be a changing there that will allow us to turn our hope into action.

We will pray forever that some day that changing will come. But for now -- and particularly today -- it is good and fitting for us to renew our commitment to each other, to our freedom, and to the alliance that protects it.

We are bound still by what bound us 40 years ago, bound by the same loyalties, traditions and beliefs. We are bound by reality: The strength of America's allies is still vital to the future of the United States. And the American security guarantee is still essential to the continued freedom of Europe's democracies. The Allies of 40 years ago are allies still. Your destiny is our destiny, and your hopes are our hopes.

Here, in this place where the West stood together, let us make a vow to our dead. Let us show them by our actions that we understand what they died for; let our actions say to them the words for which Mathew Ridgeway listened: "I will not fail thee nor forsake thee."

Strengthened by their courage, heartened by their valor and borne by their memory, let us continue to stand for the ideals for which they lived and died.

Thank you all very much.

(Dolan/RR)
May 30, 1984
4:00 p.m.

-PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: OMAHA BEACH MEMORIAL REMARKS
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 1984

We stand today at a place of battle, one that 40 years ago saw the worst of war. Men bled and died here for a few feet or inches of sand as bullets and shellfire cut through their ranks. About them, General Omar Bradley later said: "Every man who set foot on Omaha Beach that day was a hero."

Words do not do them justice. Speeches cannot portray their suffering, their sacrifice, their heroism. President Lincoln once reminded us that -- through their deeds -- the dead of battle have spoken more eloquently for themselves than any of the living ever could, that we can only honor them by rededicating ourselves to the cause for which they gave a last full measure of devotion.

Today, we do rededicate ourselves to that cause. And in this place of honor, we are humbled by the realization of how much many have given to the cause of freedom and to their fellow man.

Some who survived the battle on June 6, 1944 are here today. Others who hoped to return never did so.

"Someday, Lis, I'll go back," said Private First Class Peter Robert Zanatta of the 37th Engineer Combat Battalion of the first assault wave to hit Omaha Beach. "I'll go back and I'll see it all again. I'll see the beach, the barricades, and the graves. I'll put a flower on the graves of the guys I knew and on the grave of the unknown soldier -- all the guys I fought with."

Those words of Private Zanatta come to us from his daughter, Lisa Zanatta Henn, in an essay written about an event her father spoke of often: "the Normandy Invasion would change his life forever," she said.

She tells some of his stories of World War II, but says for her father "the story to end all stories was D-Day."

"He made me feel the fear of being on that boat waiting to land. I can smell the ocean and feel the seasickness. I can see the looks on his fellow soldiers' faces, the fear, the anguish, the uncertainty of what lay ahead. And when they landed, I can feel the strength and courage of the men who took those first steps through the tide to what must have surely looked like instant death."

Private Zanatta's daughter says: "I don't know how or why I can feel this emptiness, this fear, or this determination, but I do. Maybe its the bond I had with my father. (I was really lucky -- we never got tired of talking to each other.) All I know is that it brings tears to my eyes to think about my father as a 20 year old boy having to face that beach."

She went on to say how the anniversary of D-Day for her and her family was always special; and like all the families of those who went to war, she describes how she came to realize her own father's survival was a miracle.

"So many men died. I know that my father watched many of his friends be killed. I know that he must have died inside a little each time. But his explanation to me was 'You did what you had to do and you kept on going.'"

"My dad won his share of medals. He was a good soldier and fought hard for his country. He was just an ordinary guy, with immigrant Italian parents who never really had enough money. But he was a proud man. Proud of his heritage, proud of his country, proud that he fought in World War II and proud that he lived through D-Day."

When men like Private Zanatta and all our allied forces stormed the beaches of Normandy 40 years ago, they came not as conquerors, but as liberators. When these troops swept across the French countryside and into the forests of Belgium and Luxembourg, they came not to take, but to restore what had been wrongly taken. When our forces marched into a ruined Germany, they came not to prey on a brave and defeated people, but to nurture the seeds of democracy among those who yearned again to be free.

We salute them today; we also salute those who were already engaging the enemy inside this country -- the French Resistance -- whose valiant service for France did so much to cripple the enemy in their midst and assist in the advance of the invading armies of liberation. These French Forces of the Interior will forever offer us an image of courage and national spirit, and will be a permanent inspiration to those who are free and all those who would be free.

This day, we celebrate the triumph of democracy. This day, we reaffirm the unity of democratic peoples who fought a war and then joined with the vanquished in a firm resolve to keep the peace from that time on.

From a terrible war, we learned that unity made us invincible; now, in peace, that same unity can make us secure. We sought the inclusion of all freedom-loving nations in a community dedicated to the defense and preservation of our sacred values. Our alliance, forged in the crucible of war, tempered and shaped by the realities of the post-war world, has succeeded in this end. In Europe, the threat has been contained. The peace has been kept.

Today, the living here assembled -- officials, veterans, citizens -- are a tribute to what was achieved here 40 years ago. This land is secure. We are free. These things were worth fighting -- and dying -- for.

Lisa Zanatta Henn began her essay with a quote from her father, who frequently promised he would return to Normandy. She ended her essay with a quote from herself, promising her father, who died eight years ago of cancer, that she would go in his place and see the graves and the flowers and the ceremonies honoring the veterans of D-Day. She promised him, " . . . I'll feel all the things you made me feel through your stories and your eyes."

"I will never forget what you went through, Dad, nor will I let anyone else forget -- and Dad, I'll always be proud."

Through the words a loving daughter -- who is here with us today -- a D-Day veteran has given us the meaning of this day far better than any President can. It is enough for us to say about Private Zanatta and all the men of honor and courage who fought beside him four decades ago: We will always remember. We will always be proud.

(Myer/RR)
May 30,1984
2:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. EMBASSY PERSONNEL IN LONDON
SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 1984

Mr. Secretary and Mrs. Shultz, Mr. Ambassador and Mrs. Price, and members of the Embassy: Nancy and I are grateful that so many of you could be here today. We want to express our heartfelt thanks for your warm welcome and for all you have done to make our visit a success. It has been a truly outstanding visit, and one which I know has required much work from all of you. Thank you for a tough job extremely well done.

I know that the number of official visits to London is almost overwhelming, but this Embassy always rises to the challenge. Your good work and cheerful hospitality are well-known to Washingtonians, and I'm sure that helps explain why you see so many of us so frequently.

Great Britain and the United States are kindred nations of like-minded people. We defend the same causes, face the same dangers, and value the same friendships. These bonds between trusted friends are very special and must never be broken.

You play a vital role in all of this, and I'm delighted that Anglo-American cooperation and consultation have never been closer. We are grateful for your many efforts.

This has been a particularly busy year for the Atlantic Alliance -- and a successful one. Despite unprecedented Soviet propaganda and attempts at political intimidation, the Alliance has remained steadfast in its determination to defend

Europe and preserve peace. There is no doubt that NATO will continue to meet its responsibilities.

The Summit we just concluded exemplified the unity of the Western industrialized nations and of our resolve to advance our common interests. Today, I am more convinced than ever of the importance of an open international trading system, and confident of the prospects for full Western economic recovery.

If I may, I'd like to speak for a moment on a subject that concerns me greatly. With tragic frequency, your colleagues have given their lives in the service of our Nation. The lists of names on the memorial plaques in the State Department and other agencies grow longer. The bombing of our Embassy in Beirut remains a vivid memory. Last month, two American officers in southern Africa, working for peace and freedom, paid the ultimate sacrifice. And more recently, you witnessed terrorism right here in London.

Your jobs are not easy. And more than ever, we look to the men and women of the Foreign Service, and the many other agencies that serve us abroad. The hard work of diplomacy is the work of peacemakers -- work that often takes place in difficult and dangerous settings. I want to assure you that we are doing everything possible to provide for your safety. And I want to tell you that the American people deeply appreciate your dedication and selfless service.

Finally, I would like to thank our Foreign Service nationals who serve us so well. Your important contributions to the Anglo-American partnership are sincerely appreciated.

Ambassadors and other American officials come and go, and it's your continuity that keeps everything running smoothly. And nobody knows that better than Miss Joan Auten. Miss Auten, would you please join me up here.

During Miss Auten's distinguished career spanning nearly 44 years, she has served 14 American Ambassadors to the Court of Saint James. During World War II, Miss Auten was instrumental in arranging the evacuation of children to the United States for safekeeping. Since those early days of service, she has played a leading role in promoting friendship and dialogue between our two democracies. As Senator Howard Baker once remarked on the floor of the United States Senate, "(You have) probably done more to foster the friendship between Great Britain and the United States in the past 40 years than all the diplomats of either country put together."

Miss Auten, I believe that I speak for everyone here today -- and all those who have served or passed through the Court of Saint James during the past 44 years -- in expressing my deep appreciation for your faithful and devoted service. And now, it is an honor to present you one of the highest civilian awards that can be conferred by the United States: The President's Special Award for Exceptional Service.

B1, B3, B6

[redacted]

Patrick John HILLERY **IRELAND**

President
(since December 1976)

Addressed as:
Mr. President

Despite his public avowals that he would retire after serving his first seven-year term as President, Patrick Hillery yielded to the pleas of Ireland's three major political parties and nominated himself for a second term, a procedure provided for by the Irish Constitution. Because there were no other candidates, he was deemed "elected" and was sworn in for his second term in early December 1983. At the time of his first inauguration in 1976, [redacted] He has nonetheless managed to keep the largely ceremonial presidency above politics, as custom dictates. He is well disposed toward the United States, which he has visited often. [redacted]

Educated at University College, Dublin, Hillery followed his father into medical practice. In 1951 he was elected to the Dail (lower house of parliament). He has held several Cabinet portfolios, including Education, Industry and Commerce, Labor, and Foreign Affairs. One of the few early Irish "Europeanists," Hillery was responsible for negotiating Ireland's entry into the EC (it became a member in 1973). He resigned from the Dail in January 1973, when he was appointed a vice president of the EC Commission, with responsibility for social affairs; he held that post until he received his current position. [redacted]

Hillery, 61, is a prize-winning golfer and also enjoys swimming, fishing, and painting. He is married to the former Mary Finnegan, who is, like her husband, a medical doctor. She enjoys attending auctions and plays golf and bridge. Both Hillerys speak French. They have a son and a daughter. [redacted]

CR M 84-12690
11 May 1984

[redacted]

28301

Mary Finnegan HILLERY **IRELAND**

Wife of the President

Addressed as:
Mrs. Hillery or
Dr. Hillery

©

Mary Finnegan and Patrick Hillery were married in October 1955. Hillery has been President since December 1976. Like her husband, Mrs. Hillery is a medical doctor. A member of the executive board of the National Association for the Mentally Handicapped, she is currently involved in volunteer research in this area. She has publicly supported equal opportunity for women, but she says she is not a feminist. Mrs. Hillery, who enjoys traveling, owns a house in Spain. Her other leisure interests include attending auctions and playing golf and bridge. She speaks French. The Hillerys have a son, who is a medical student, and a daughter.

CR M 84-12689
11 May 1984

51, 33, 56

[redacted]

Garret Michael FITZGERALD — IRELAND

Prime Minister
(since December 1982)

Addressed as:
Mr. Prime Minister

A politician whose personal popularity generally exceeds the popularity of his party, Fine Gael party leader Garret FitzGerald is heading his second Fine Gael-Labor Party coalition government. The Irish press describes FitzGerald as an intellectual and an honest politician but has frequently doubted his political sagacity.

[redacted]

In mid-1983, however, the British press criticized FitzGerald for his alleged mishandling of a political dispute centering on the language for a proposed constitutional ban on abortion. The government's proposal was defeated in the Dail, the lower house of parliament, with eight of FitzGerald's fellow Fine Gael members voting against him.

[redacted]

Economic Problems and Policy

As Prime Minister, FitzGerald faces difficult decisions on the economy. Ireland boasted one of the highest growth rates in the West during the early 1970s, but since then the economy has faltered severely. The country has a huge public debt, and inflation and unemployment are about 12 and 16 percent, respectively. FitzGerald has pledged to eliminate the budget deficit by 1987. In his first budget, in February 1983, he introduced new, harsh measures that increased income and consumer taxes. His 1984 budget, while somewhat less restrictive, is nearly as harsh. Both budgets have contained measures to deal with Ireland's high unemployment rate, although FitzGerald holds no immediate hope of alleviating that problem: in mid-1983 he publicly stated that unemployment in Ireland would probably get worse before it got any better (he was right). FitzGerald's tough budgets have produced some political strains with his coalition partners in the left-of-center Labor Party [redacted] however, the Labor Party is likely to stick with the coalition for the foreseeable future.

Foreign Affairs

[redacted] FitzGerald has a nearly encyclopedic knowledge of world affairs. He is a strong supporter of the European Communities. [redacted] He has visited this country many times, most recently in September 1982, when he met with Vice

[redacted]

(cont.)

[redacted]

President George Bush. FitzGerald's foreign policy positions have often coincided with those of the United States: he publicly condemned the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and supported the subsequent Olympic boycott and grain embargo. He does not hesitate to disagree with US policies, however, and he has publicly criticized US actions in Central America. FitzGerald was reluctant to take any measures in response to the Soviet downing of a South Korean airliner in 1983. He opposes Irish membership in any military alliance, favoring the continuation of his country's Westward-leaning neutrality. [redacted]

The Northern Ireland Problem

FitzGerald supports the peaceful unification of Ireland. He has long been critical of terrorist activities, and he has publicly denounced the Provisional Irish Republican Army for waging "a campaign of sectarian genocide against the Protestants." He has often appealed to Americans to refuse to contribute funds to organizations linked to terrorism in Ulster. [redacted]

To achieve peaceful unification, FitzGerald advocates cooperation between Dublin and both the British Government and moderate political forces in Ulster. He has met with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher twice: in November 1981 and in November 1983. At the first meeting the two leaders agreed to establish an Anglo-Irish intergovernmental council as a framework for bilateral consultations, and at the second session they reviewed the accomplishments of the council. FitzGerald has called for changes in the Irish Constitution that would make unification more attractive to the Protestants in the North. [redacted]

In early 1983 FitzGerald was a leading proponent of the establishment of the Forum for a New Ireland, a group open to any party disavowing the use of violence and having elected representatives in either the Republic of Ireland or Ulster. He has asserted that the creation of the forum demonstrated to the "men of violence" in the North that Ireland's future will be built by the ballot box and not the bullet. The forum met between May 1983 and early February 1984 and is now drafting a report on its proposed new solution to the Northern Ireland problem; the report is expected to be released in March. [redacted]

FitzGerald holds a law degree and a Ph.D. in economics. First elected to the Dail in 1969, he served during 1973-77 as Foreign Minister (a post his father, Desmond, had held during the 1920s and 1930s). FitzGerald was elected leader of Fine Gael in 1977, after the party suffered an unexpected and devastating election defeat. He is widely credited in Ireland with converting the once disorganized party into a formidable political power. During June 1981-March 1982 he led a minority coalition government that fell after losing a budget vote in the Dail. [redacted]

[redacted]

27 February 1984

[redacted]

28303

Joan FITZGERALD **IRELAND**

Wife of the Prime Minister

Addressed as:
Mrs. FitzGerald

©

Joan O'Farrell married Garret FitzGerald in October 1947. According to the press, she met him at a French Society meeting at University College in Dublin, where she studied history, economics, and politics. (She learned to speak French while living in Geneva as a child.) Mrs. FitzGerald travels frequently with her husband. The press has described her as a brilliant woman who serves as his sounding board. The media also note that she is active in theology discussion groups.

The FitzGeralds have three children: John, an economist in the Department of Finance; Mary, a lecturer in American literature at the University of Tromsø in Norway; and Mark, an auctioneer. Mrs. FitzGerald is about 61 years old.

CR M 84-11259
5 March 1984

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FOIA
F02-071/1
COLLINS

Box Number
90542

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ID	Document Type Document Description	No of pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
28304	PAPER DUPLICATE OF #26548; BIO	1	5/18/1984	B1

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

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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ID	Document Type Document Description	No of pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
28305	PAPER DUPLICATE OF #26549; BIO	1	5/16/1984	B1

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

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ID	Document Type Document Description	No of pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
28306	PAPER DUPLICATE OF #26550; BIO	2	5/17/1984	B1

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ID	Document Type Document Description	No of pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
28307	PAPER DUPLICATE OF #26553; BIO	1	4/27/1984	B1

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28308	PAPER DUPLICATE OF #26554; BIO	2	5/18/1984	B1

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28309	PAPER DUPLICATE OF #26555; BIO	2	5/17/1984	B1

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28310	PAPER DUPLICATE OF #26556; BIO	3	5/18/1984	B1

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ID	Document Type Document Description	No of pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
28311	PAPER DUPLICATE OF #26551; BIO	2	5/15/1984	B1

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28312	PAPER DUPLICATE OF #26552; BIO	2	5/17/1984	B1

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