THE WHITE HOUSE

FAX TRANSMISSION SHEET

DATE: 04/12/98 04:16 PM
PAGES WITH COVER: 2

TO: Dr. Edna Louise Saffy
FROM: Christine A. Staniek
OFFICE: WHO
PHONE #:

COMMMENTS:

RADIO ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT TO THE NATION
The One-Olive

THE PRESIDENT (spoken): Good evening. Across America and around the world, this is a holy weekend for those of the various great religions. Christians are celebrating Easter. Jews, Muslims, and Hindus have just ended their annual holy days, the Holy Week.

On this special weekend, the hopes of the world and the prayers of all men are focused on the orders of the Lord, as an historic peace agreement was signed among representatives of all the major parties to that long and tragic conflict.

I especially want to thank the leaders of Prime Minster Beni Beni of Israel, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel, and the leaders of all the parties who came together to sign this historic accord of peace. I also salute the previous Prime Ministers of Israel and Great Britain, who worked and sacrificed to achieve peace.

And all Americans should take a special measure of pride that the talks in Northern Ireland were headed by General de Gaulle, the former leader of the United States Senate, which has served this country and this peace very, very well. I thank him for this brilliant leadership.

Of course, we understand that the pain and hatred of so many years passed and will not be erased simply in one weekend. So on behalf of the American people, please allow me to speak to the people of the United States and to the world in the next few days of peace and the beginning of prosperity in Ireland and Northern Ireland.

In this last century, the future of that region was in the hearts and hands of all of us. Like so many Americans, paid so many debts before the war began, we thank you for that commitment and promise.

And finally, I've seen that from their eyes, a lifetime which can grow up from two, three, but two of my children, and I've seen the common humanity and the common commitment that we have had.

There may be those who seem to question this agreement by defending its extension, so let us recognize that the arts of peace and leverage will diminish over time, over time, and over time, and over time.

Tomorrow, the President will speak on Easter morning, all across Ireland. Catholics and Protestants will sit together in public to honor the memory of the dead. On the Easter Sunday, the United States President will have the chance to choose peace over war.

When I visited Ireland, and later the Republic of Ireland, the great host of people who in that year, the Easter Sunday, gave me a gift from a piece of paper he wrote that both signed. It was a note of referral to the offices of each of the Irish. Here is that message from a general of the Irish Army.

"We have a wish," General de Gaulle, a gift for the Irish, Irish Americans, and the Irish President.

Thank you for listening.