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Ha information

Oifig an Taoisigh

Office of the Taoiseach

4 November, 1992.

The Honorable William Clinton, Governor of Arkansas and President-Elect, State Capitol, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201.

Dear Governor and President-Elect,

I am delighted to offer you my warmest congratulations, on behalf of the Government and the people of Ireland, on your decisive election as President. Our good wishes also go to your Vice President, Senator Gore.

President Kennedy, on the eve of his election, rightly remarked that a rigorous election campaign was "the best education" for the Presidency. We in Ireland are confident that, as with President Kennedy, the campaigning skills and political vision you have shown will translate into a Presidency of high and historic achievement.

During the campaign, you spoke generously of the depth and importance of the Irish contribution to the United States. The relationship between our two countries has always been warm and close. Indeed, it could scarcely be otherwise given the forty-four million Americans who proudly assert their Irish ancestry and - a more recent development -our growing partnership in Europe through the almost four hundred United States companies established in Ireland, to the clear mutual benefit of both our economies.

You also, and very importantly, addressed the issue of Northern Ireland. I was very heartened by your interest and concern and know we can count on your unremitting support for our efforts to find a just and peaceful solution to this tragic problem.

Oifig an Taoisigh Office of the Taoiseach

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Our two countries may differ greatly in size and scale but we share very fundamental ideals and values - above all a deep commitment to democracy, freedom and the dignity of the individual. It gives me particular pleasure therefore, as you prepare to take up the heavy burden of office, to offer you our best wishes from Ireland and our pledge to work actively with you and your Administration in pursuit of the values we share.

I hope that it will not be too long before we have an opportunity to meet you personally.

With renewed congratulations and warmest good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Albert Reynolds, T.D., Taoiseach.