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**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON  
DEPARTURE STATEMENT ON NORTHERN IRELAND  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
NOVEMBER 28, 1995**

**I have just come from a meeting with the Congressional leadership, where we discussed the importance of continued American leadership to help secure the peace agreement in Bosnia. I emphasized to them, as I did to the American people last night, that our mission will be clear, limited, and achievable -- and that the risks to our troops will be minimized. Bosnia is a case where our leadership can make the difference between peace and war. America must choose peace.**

**Now I am departing for Europe, where British Prime Minister Major and Irish Prime Minister Bruton have just announced the launch of a promising new "twin track" initiative to advance the peace process in Northern Ireland. I want to salute both these leaders for their vision, their courage, and their leadership for peace.**

**The "twin track" initiative will establish an international body to address the question of decommissioning weapons, while at the same time organizing preliminary political talks in which all parties will be invited to participate. The goal is to bring all the parties together for political talks on the future of Northern Ireland. This is an opportunity to begin a dialogue in which all views are represented and all voices can be heard.**

**In just a few days, I will become the first American President to visit Northern Ireland. Last year's cease-fire and the process of negotiations have sparked a remarkable transformation in that land. For the first time in 25 years, children can walk to school without fear. Bomb-shattered shopfronts have been replaced by new businesses. People can visit their relatives and friends without the burden of check-points or barricades...And crossing the border between North and South is now as simple as crossing a speed bump.**

**The "twin track" initiative builds on those achievements. It brings the people of Northern Ireland one step closer to a day when the only barriers their children will face are the limits of their dreams.**

**Today's announcement also brings hope and strength to all who struggle for peace around the world. It demonstrates that the will for peace is more powerful than bullets or bombs. And it reminds us once again that with courage and resolve, bitter legacies of conflict can be overcome. The United States is proud to support the peacemakers -- in Northern Ireland, the Middle East, Bosnia, and throughout the world. Those who stand up for peace will never stand alone.**