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SINN FEIN

A4-A4 02/05/97 12:26 Pg: 1



GERRY ADAMS

President of Sinn Féin
51/55 Bóthar na bhFál, Béal Feirste BT12 4PD

Private and Confidential

2 May 1997

Tony Blair MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London

A Chara

Congratulations on your outstanding electoral success. Good luck to you in your new position, and in your efforts to implement the priorities you have set for yourself and your government.

I am certain that these will include the issue of a lasting peace in Ireland. Be assured that this is a priority for me also and that Sinn Féin is totally committed to democratic and peaceful methods of struggle and to a negotiated settlement to the conflict in our country.

The rebuilding of a credible peace process must be tackled without further delay. I would request, therefore, that you authorise officials of your government to meet with Sinn Féin as soon as possible so that we can explore with urgency how this can be accomplished.

While I am mindful of the difficulties for all concerned I remain confident that the peace process can be established on a solid basis of equality and inclusive dialogue.

That certainly is my commitment.

Le gach dea mheinn

*File
(see Mr. Adams' reply of 16/5)
JH 16/5*