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TO DESKBY 021500Z FCO
TELNO 294
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AND TO DESKBY 021450Z NIO(L)
INFO IMMEDIATE DUBLIN

PRESIDENT CLINTON ON NORTHERN IRELAND

1. PRESIDENT CLINTON LAST NIGHT REJECTED ADAMS' CALL TO PRESSURIZE THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT ON NORTHERN IRELAND. CLINTON SAID THAT HIS 1992 CAMPAIGN PROPOSAL TO NAME A U.S. ENVOY TO MEDIATE ON NORTHERN IRELAND HAD BEEN OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS. RECENTLY, HE SAID, AN ASTONISHING PEACE INITIATIVE HAD BEEN LAUNCHED BY THE BRITISH AND IRISH PRIME MINISTERS AND ADAMS SHOULD BACK IT. 'LET'S BE FAIR. THE PEOPLE THAT HAVE TO RESOLVE THIS ARE THE IRISH AND THE BRITISH, WHEN I SPOKE ABOUT THAT THE PEACE ENVOY IN THE CAMPAIGN, WE DID NOT HAVE THE EVIDENCE THAT WE NOW HAVE THAT THE BRITISH AND IRISH GOVERNMENTS WOULD TAKE THE STEPS THAT THEY HAVE TAKEN. SINCE THAT CAMPAIGN, I THINK IT'S ASTONISHING WHAT HAS BEEN DONE. THE JOINT DECLARATION IS SOMETHING THE U.S. VERY MUCH SUPPORTS'. ADAMS SHOULD SUPPORT THE WORK BEING DONE BY THE BRITISH AND IRISH PRIME MINISTERS IN PURSUING THE PEACE.

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