**AMERICAN BREXIT COMMITTEE**

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*John M. Corcoran Esq, Chairman*

*Michael J.* Cummings*, Secretary,* Emeritus

July 12, 2023

TO: Member of Congress

FROM: John Corcoran, Chairman

RE: British Corruption of Law and Justice in Northern Ireland Mocks U. S. & EU and the Irish Republic

The British government continues to ignore America’s expressions of concern for peace and justice in Ireland. Conservatives like Lord Frost and MP Jacob Reese-Mogg play games with Northern Ireland’s democracy and ignore the principles of justice, transparency, and human rights at the heart of the Good Friday Agreement (GFA). The Conservatives support Home Secretary Priti Patel’s bill (Legacy and Reconciliation Act) which, in effect, abandons the rule of law in a criminal conspiracy to bury the truth of British security services involvement in the deaths of 1100 civilians. The bill’s adoption is Britain’s only hope to escape a ‘state sponsor of terrorism’ label. Britain has proven its resistance to U. S. and EU foreign policy for Ireland. Its legacy of political and economic destabilizing tactics in NI has endured for decades. British obstruction of peace initiatives like the GFA is best represented by their loyalist pawns and their hate-filled bonfire this past week. It included burning an effigy of Irish Tánaiste Leo Varadker and a replica ship labeled “This ship has sailed.” So desperate is Britain for a US-UK trade deal and concessions, it continues a diplomatic dog and pony show for US and UK media lauding the ‘special chum’ relationship. We ask you to consider whether Britain is a sincere and trustworthy partner for the U. S. in securing peace for Ireland in the post-Brexit era.

**IRISH PEACE PROCESS**

The Conservative Party of Britain has been opposed to the GFA since 2001; playing lip service to its principles and ignoring its obligations. It has defunded much of the criminal justice system in NI to slow investigation of nearly half of the 3200 lives attributed to the conflict; many of which have never been investigated, permitted a Coroner’s Inquest or prosecuted. The key to covering up criminality of Britain’s security services was to change the rules---only in NI--- for the conduct of Coroners Inquests. Many have never been held or quickly closed. The Inquest backlog today includes hundreds of cases pending for 40 -50 years!

Lord Caine, Parliamentary sponsor of the Legacy bill, has ignored most recommended amendments offered by the Irish government, NI political parties and NGO’s. Britain’s arrogance in this matter is definitive. For example, he agreed to extend until May,2024 the deadline to do what they should have been doing for 30 years i. e. investigate more than 1100 civilian deaths. Their Ministry of Defense would simply block all freedom of information requests claiming Official Secrets Act exemptions***. If your police, Army and MI-5 were deployed to lawlessly collude in slaying many of those civilians, transparency and truth are the last things you want.*** The death totals may not include 200+ civilian deaths involving British secret agents and which were retroactively legalized by CHIS legislation in 2021 (Operation Kenova).

**BREXIT**

For the Brexiteer brigade the primary purpose in leaving the EU was to restore ‘sovereignty’ by removing human rights obligations and to establish their own commercial rules to remove the EU Court of Justice. The Conservatives have pledged to repeal the 1998 Human Rights Act, a key proviso of the 1998 EU-UK Good Friday Agreement. The Northern Ireland Brexit vote to REMAIN in the EU clashed with the GFA peace pact and risked UK access to the Single EU Market.

The UK agreed to a Northern Ireland Protocol (NIP) to alleviate some trade friction but prompted its political allies to claim the Protocol was unconstitutional and opposed support for restoring the Executive form of government (deHondt). When the UK Supreme Court rejected the DUP case against the Protocol, NI highest Civil Servant Dr. Andrew McCormick stated: ***“It is hard to imagine anything with greater democratic legitimacy under the UK constitution than something that was at the very center of the manifesto on which a government secured a clear majority in a general election.”*** The British were simply manipulating NI politics and were using such tactics to secure U. S. trade concessions and a Brexit bail-out. The hard truth is the Brexiteers knew of the self-harm of Brexit to Britain and Ireland. No government report ***Before*** or ***After*** the 2016 referendum has been produced to date documenting the true cost and targets of Brexit. The first goal of Brexit was not to remove but perfect Ireland’s partition in the post Brexit era to remain sovereign and meddling!

The 300 men and women of the American Brexit Committee join the voices of Ad Hoc Committee to Protect the GFA, the Irish American Unity Conference, the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Brehon Law Society in expressing concern for Britain’s provocative Legacy bill and its autocratic behavior in obstructing democracy in N.I. They undermine U. S. foreign policy objectives it shares with Ireland, its oldest ally, to bring a peaceful conclusion to the colonial era. Please review americanbrexitcommittee.com for more info. We deeply appreciate the bi-partisan support of leadership in both the House, Senate and White House for the GFA.

Sincerely,

John M. Corcoran, Esq. Chairman

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