

148/94
copy 5 + 1/93

DB/97/94



British Embassy
Washington

24 FEB 1994
52/93/94
STATE OF DE

24 February 1994

By fax: (071)

3100 Massachusetts Avenue N.W.
Washington D.C. 20008-3600

Telephone: (202) 898-4292
Facsimile: (202) 898-4255

3267

R M J Lyne Esq CMG
Private Secretary
No 10 Downing Street
London

From The Ambassador

1485/2

- CC PS SofS L+B
- PS PS L+B
- PS Mr Bell
- Mr Thomas
- Mr Bell
- Mr Danell
- Mr Beeton

his signature
Mr Watkins
for file
Drew
20/2

Dear Rod,

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES

Tony Lake has given me the attached note of the briefing he gave last night to British correspondents about the U.S./U.K. relationship. You will note his remarks about the position if Adams applied for another visa.

Yours ever,

Robin

Robin Renwick

- cc: by fax:
- Christopher Meyer CMG, 10 Downing Street
 - The Hon Mrs Sarah Hogg, Policy Unit, 10 Downing St
 - Mr R J Sawers, PS/Secretary of State, Lisbon
 - Mr S Smith, PS/Secretary of State, FCO
 - Acting Head/News Dept, FCO
 - PS/Sir Patrick Mayhew

- WASHINGTON 1
- There really is a special relationship between the United States and Britain. There may be differences of opinion but the common interests, common language (sort of) and understanding remains. The key point is one of confidence.
- The chemistry between Clinton and Major is strong. Tony has been party to many meetings and conversations. In a recent conversation, Clinton and Major joked about the press reports that their relationship is rocky. When Clinton read recent news accounts saying that he still harbors resentment over reports from last year that Conservative Party aided Republicans, he first laughed. The second time he saw the reports -- quoting unnamed White House officials, " he expressed anger that anyone on his staff would say such things.
- Gerry Adams. Took issue with notion that a Sr. US official in London says that the US made a mistake in granting the visa. No. It remains to be seen what impact the Adams visit will have but No, we don't think of this as a mistake. It was a tough decision, lots of thought went into making it.

(In response to question of whether or not we bowed to pressure by Congress, Tony said that President was aware that his ultimate decision was supported by key people on the Hill but he weighed options and did what was best for US interests.)

- Key point Tony made was in response to question as to how we would react if Gerry Adams applied for another visa. Tony said, "He remains ineligible, the ball is in his court." Tony emphasized that this visa was a special waiver, not the rule. Implied that Adams would have to cross a higher threshold next time.
- As for US overall interest in N. Ireland, we will continue to follow it, discuss it and consider the issue of a special envoy if it were clearly needed and wanted.
- *no definitive answer but*
Spy Case: said he was NOT AWARE of any implications for British intelligence in what was passed to Russians. Re-iterated that this is a serious matter but would not go further.
- Relations with Moscow. Tony said that we operate "without illusions...relationship not based on charity, but US interests." Said that the political situation is "mixed"--privitization going well, democratic election was free and fair...and that Tony would foresee a mixed bag for many years.
- Bosnia. In response to question as to whether or not Clinton knew that Yeltsin would send troops and was

surprised, Tony said that Clinton had asked Yeltsin to use his influence.

- In response to question as to US-British disagreement over Bosnia, Tony said that governments can disagree. But in response to notion that Clinton told Major that IF Britain did NOT go along, we would change our troop commitment in Europe--FALSE.
- US TROOPS TO BOSNIA? Tony said that the only circumstance under which we will send troops is to help implement a settlement that is implementable.
- Summit on Bosnia? Immediate step is to follow up on progress in Bonn.
- Tony re-iterated that Clinton and Major get along very well and firmly disputed that the relationship is in trouble.
- Tony mentioned that he has spoken to his own counterpart in Britain 2 or 3 times over the past 4 or 5 weekends. (Showed the journalists his direct line to Britain and said he has 2 other direct lines but would not name the countries.)

FAX COVER SHEET

FOR UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGES ONLY



British Embassy
Washington

3100 Massachusetts Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008-3600

To PS/Sir Patrick Mayhew

At NIO(L)

Fax (071) 210 6722

From Robin Renwick

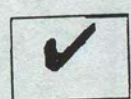
Telephone 0101-202-898-4291

Date 24 February 1994 Time _____

Reference PM's visit to the U.S. Number of pages 4
(including cover)

FACSIMILE NUMBER FOR REPLY

SENDER
PLEASE
TICK



X	HMA PRIVATE OFFICE	(202) 371 6820
	CHANCERY	(202) 898 4255
	TRADE POLICY	(202) 898 4224
	OVERSEAS TRADE SERVICES	(202) 789 6265
	ECONOMIC	(202) 371 6818
	PRESS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS	(202) 898 4273
	MANAGEMENT	(202) 898 4654
	ACCOUNTS	(202) 789 7958
	TECHNICAL WORKS GROUP	(202) 371 6819

MESSAGE:

CONFIDENTIAL

Sec 8

copy 41/93

36/592/94

FROM: PUS
2 FEBRUARY 1994

- cc. PS/Michael Ancram (L,B&DENI) - B
- PS/Mr Fell - B
- Mr Legge *208/2* - B
- Mr Thomas - B
- Mr Bell - B
- Mr Steele - B
- Mr Williams - B
- Mr Wood (L&B) - B
- Mr Daniell - B
- Mr Leach *a Mr. Watters* - B
- HMA Dublin - B
- Mr Archer, RID, TCO - B

(781)

PS/SECRETARY OF STATE (L&B) - B

Handwritten signatures and initials

ADAMS VISA

I had a brief conversation with Ray Seitz, US Ambassador in London, at dinner at his residence yesterday evening (1 February).

2. Never less than totally professional (and urbane), Ray Seitz nonetheless made no attempt to conceal both his chagrin that the State Department's, and his Embassy's, advice had been set aside, and more substantively at the risk the President's decision incurred. The risk of an outrage with 'bloody footsteps leading all the way to the White House' (my language, not his), and to the Joint Declaration's acceptance by both Unionists and Sinn Fein, is clearly seen. He hoped (and we see signs of it today) that the US Administration would set out to keep its balance on this (as it has in the President's response to Adams' call for US involvement). He did say that Adams' exploitation of the media opportunity was entirely foreseeable, but probably not foreseen by the White House.

3. A frisson ran round the dinner party when someone said, on arrival at Winfield House, that Adams had been seen with Senators Kennedy and Moynihan apparently on his way to the White House (impliedly to meet the President). This turned out to be a canard, or at any rate a piece of media fakery (? set up by the Irish-American lobby) but it clearly represented the most severe test yet in the course of this episode of our host's urbanity.

4. I went out of my way to thank the Ambassador and his Consul-General in Belfast for all his efforts, notwithstanding that they did not prevail on this occasion.

Signed:

JOHN CHILCOT

2 FEBRUARY 1994

CONFIDENTIAL

JEN/L/2/7/50118