

CONFIDENTIAL



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

13 April 1994

*Dear Simon,*

**CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE WHITE HOUSE AND  
GERRY ADAMS**

Graham Archer at the FCO has sent you a copy of his minute of 12 April, attaching the exchange of letters between Gerry Adams and Tony Lake at the White House.

As Graham says, the outcome is as good as we could have hoped for. It is helpful that Lake and his team have taken fair account, this time, of the views we put to them.

I think that I ought to send Tony Lake a personal message expressing appreciation. This would provide an opportunity for one or two other observations. I enclose a draft. I would like to get it off by the weekend. **May I therefore have your comments, and those of the FCO, by 1400 on Friday 15 April?**

I assume that Lake is aware that his staff have given our Embassy copies of the correspondence. I would be grateful if the FCO could confirm this.

I am sending copies of this letter to John Sawers (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), Sir Robin Renwick (Washington) and Melanie Leech (Cabinet Office).

*yours etc,  
Roderic*

RODERIC LYNE

Simon Rogers Esq  
Northern Ireland Office

CONFIDENTIAL

**PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL**

**DRAFT LETTER FROM RODERIC LYNE TO PROFESSOR ANTHONY LAKE, NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL, WHITE HOUSE**

While I was on my Easter holiday, Nancy Soderberg kindly liaised with Philippa Leslie-Jones here over your reply to Gerry Adams. I have now received the copy which was given to our Embassy (for which I understand you are not initiating publicity).

If I may say so, I think that your letter strikes exactly the right note. It is particularly helpful to demonstrate to Gerry Adams at this time that there is no daylight between the Administration's stance and our own.

The ceasefire and the IRA's subsequent return to violence were disappointments, if not a surprise. But there is continuing evidence that the Joint Declaration is eroding support for those who advocate violence. We heard this from a number of sources, including long serving members of the security forces, during the Prime Minister's latest visit to Northern Ireland on 30 and 31 March. He used that visit to spell out once again that he is not going to be deflected from the measured and determined approach which he has taken towards the Northern Irish problem.

I was glad to hear from Jim Molyneux MP that you and, I understand, the Vice President, have found time to see him when he visits Washington next week. This, too, will have a very helpful effect in Northern Ireland. You will find the Ulster Unionists in a rather nervous mood in the run up to the elections to the European Parliament in early June. In Northern Ireland, these elections tend to turn into something of a beauty contest, and Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionists are doing all that they can to garner votes from Molyneux's Party by

**PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL**

**PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL**

- 2 -

taking an extreme stance against the Joint Declaration. Largely as a result, I think, Molyneux has recently shifted his public stance and has taken the line that the Joint Declaration has now run its course and should be set aside (some of his Party put it more strongly). But he is a thoughtful man who listens carefully, and it would steady his hand to hear from you and the Vice President of the beneficial impact of the Joint Declaration on attitudes in the United States.

f/lake.sm

**PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL**