

From : Rod Lyne  
Date : 31 January 1994

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 1AA

**PRIME MINISTER**

**LETTER TO TAOISEACH**



I attach two versions of the letter to Albert Reynolds. Today's revised text includes a couple of paragraphs about the visa angle. If you wanted to accentuate that bit of the text, you could put words to that effect as a manuscript addition to the draft you have already signed. This would show Reynolds that the word came from you, not from some despised bureaucrat. But it would be rather laborious.

*Rod Lyne*

**RODERIC LYNE**

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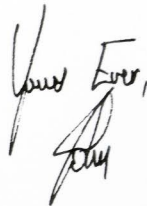

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THE PRIME MINISTER

I am glad that Patrick Mayhew and Dick Spring had the chance of a thorough discussion on 28 January. This was a good time to take stock. As the days pass, it becomes harder to sustain optimism about the eventual response of the Provisionals and Sinn Fein to the Joint Declaration. But if their internal debate is still going on, we should obviously continue to do whatever we can to underline that the Joint Declaration offers a fair and balanced path into the democratic process, if only they will end violence. Patrick Mayhew and I have both gone to great lengths to spell this out. I also had a very good meeting with John Hume a couple of weeks ago.

I am sure that it would be useful for you and me to compare notes fairly soon, preferably in a way which would not attract too much attention. As luck would have it, the rugby international at Twickenham on 19 February looks like a good opportunity, and good timing. I gather that you are likely to come over for the game. The RFU have also invited me, though I have yet to confirm that I shall be going. I hope that we can find an hour or so before or after the game for a chat.

If you would like to do this, I shall ask Roderic Lyne to be in touch with your office to work out the most convenient arrangement.

Yours Ever,  
  


Mr. Albert Reynolds TD