



10 DOWNING STREET
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Faxed
W/ton 31.1
Free

From the Private Secretary

31 January 1994

Dear Robin,

GERRY ADAMS

I am attaching a copy of the press line which Christopher Meyer is using this morning. As you will see, it centres on the IRA and their behaviour, and avoids making any direct attack on the US Government and its decision.

Your Embassy will doubtless be having an active time in trying to ensure that the right questions are put to Adams at the New York conference tomorrow and in TV and other interviews. He needs to be skewered with the IRA's refusal to stop violence, despite receiving an offer in the Joint Declaration which all respectable Irish Nationalists (Reynolds, Hume, Cardinal Daly, etc., etc.) regard as fair and balanced. His American hosts and interviewers need tutoring to ^{spot} Adams' evasions. They must be made to see that his weekend statement - far from moving towards peace - actually sets out to justify violence in traditional IRA terms (demilitarisation, removal of British troops, etc.). If there is any further help which I or the Northern Ireland Office can give, please do not hesitate to pick up the 'phone.

The Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary had a word on the telephone as the latter was on his way to the airport this morning. They agreed that our tactic must be to put Adams on the spot, and expose his evasions as directly as we can.

In teeing up your contacts, you may wish to draw attention to the fact that there have been two car bomb explosions in London since the Americans decided to admit Adams. One was in the East End overnight. The other was in Sutton this morning. There were no injuries. It is too soon yet for the

forensic experts to be certain that they were the work of PIRA - but you may make your own guess, no doubt. We shall feed you further details as we get them.

I am sending a copy of this fax to Jonathan Stephens (Northern Ireland Office).

yours etc,

Roderic

RODERIC LYNE

Sir Robin Renwick KCMG

PRESS LINE ON GERRY ADAMS, 31 JANUARY 1994

Gerry Adams has spent the past six weeks trying to justify the IRA's failure to renounce violence on the basis of the Joint Declaration. During this time, the Provisionals have made a series of attacks in Northern Ireland and in Britain.

We hope that his hosts in New York will demand, in the clearest possible terms, that the IRA gives up terrorism immediately. They should make clear that evasive and non-committal statements from Gerry Adams are not enough. The responsibility for peace rests with him and his colleagues.

Has Gerry Adams not moved towards peace in his weekend statements?

Adams's statements have so far fallen far short of a unequivocal commitment to end violence, accept the Joint Declaration, and enter the democratic process.

However, he has highlighted the key question. To secure entry to the United States, Adams has given the impression that he personally is against violence. If the Provisionals now continue their terrorism, the hollowness of his words will be exposed. Those who supported his admission will realise that they have been deceived.

What will count, therefore, is not words but deeds - whether Sinn Fein now end violence and accept the democratic route offered in the Joint Declaration.

The US decision is designed to help the Joint Declaration

To help the Joint Declaration and the cause of peace in Northern Ireland, it must be made clear to Sinn Fein that violence must end immediately and without further prevarication. They must be told that anything short of this is inadequate and unacceptable. They have had plenty of time to make their minds up. They have been offered a fair and balanced basis for peace in the Joint Declaration.

HMG's attitude to the US decision to admit Adams?

This was a decision for the US Government, and it was taken in a Washington context. [It is clearly not the decision we would have taken. UNATTRIBUTABLE]

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It is important to be clear about Sinn Fein and the IRA. They have not renounced violence. They have not committed themselves to the Joint Declaration. The violence is continuing and Gerry Adams is continuing to try to justify it.

[Sinn Fein should not be treated like a democratic party until it behaves like a democratic party and gives up its support for terrorism. UNATTRIBUTABLE]

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