

26. Jun. 1996 10:49
26/06/96 11:34

S OF S PRIVATE OFFICE 1712106722
SOS OFF. (B) → SOS OFF. (L)

No. 8967 P. 2/3
NO. 813 P002

CONFIDENTIAL AND PERSONAL

FROM: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY



NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE
STORMONT CASTLE
BELFAST BT4 3ST

Tel. Belfast (0232) 520700

John Holmes Esq
Private Secretary to the
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1A 2AA

Prime Minister
On x, I suspect Paddy is deluding himself.
He and Spring are too different. Y is a
genuine point which I also mentioned
to you afterwards. Great care is
needed.
John
26/6.

26 June 1996

Dear John,

BILATERAL WITH TAOISEACH

The Secretary of State was interested to read your letter to me of 24 June reporting on the Prime Minister's bilateral with the Taoiseach in the margins of the Florence European Council on 22 June.

He was pleased by, and sees real value in the underlying rapport in the relationship between the Prime Minister and the Taoiseach displayed in your letter. He believes that a similar relationship now exist between the Tanaiste and himself, although the Tanaiste is a more morose, complex and taciturn character.

The Secretary of State has noted the thoughts expressed by the Taoiseach on the nature of a final settlement. While he believes that they deserve development it is of paramount importance that no hint should fuel unionist suspicions of a deal being stitched up for 'imposition' by the two Governments. We will obviously give some thought to this topic, possibly drawing on work that was carried out in the aftermath of the Framework Documents but it will need to take account of this particular sensitivity.

CONFIDENTIAL AND PERSONAL

26. Jun. 1996 10:49
26/06/96 11:35

S OF S PRIVATE OFFICE 1712106722
SOS OFF. (B) → SOS OFF. (L)

No. 8967 P. 3/3
NO.813 P003

~~CONFIDENTIAL AND PERSONAL~~



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

I have copied this to William Ehrman (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), Jan Polley (Cabinet Office) and Veronica Sutherland (Dublin).

Yours

Martin

MARTIN HOWARD

There is no prospect at all of the Prime Minister being able to do this. But do you recommend offering representation, either by a Minister or by the Ambassador?

I am copying this letter to Veronica Sutherland in Dublin.

EDWARD OAKDEN

David Kyle, Esq.
Northern Ireland Office

CONFIDENTIAL AND PERSONAL

BB/ESTALKS/297