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FILE TITLE: PM VISITS TO NORTHERN IRELAND		SERIES IRELAND
		PART: 3
PART BEGINS: 30 MARCH 1999	PART ENDS: 7 JUNE 2001	CAB ONE:

LABOUR ADMINISTRATION

~~Part 29~~

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PART

CLOSED

DATE CLOSED

7 JUNE 2001

Series : IRELAND
File Title : Visits to Northern Ireland
Part : 3

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31/03/1999	PM		Letter of thanks to Hillsborough staff	C	0
02/04/1999	NIO	GR	Visit of PM and Taoiseach to Hazelwood Integrated College	U	0
09/06/1999	FA/APS	Ch.Staff	Visit to Northern Ireland	S	204
21/06/1999	PM		To John McFall MP - Thanks for visit to Belfast	U	0
25/06/1999	NIO	D/C	Meetings with NI political leaders programme	C	0
25/06/1999	NIO	FA/PS	Security arrangements in Castle buildings next week	C	0
18/05/2001	NIO	NIO	Prime Ministerial Visit: Conversation with David Campbell, 18 may	C	0
22/05/2001	NI/Assembly	FA/PS	Deputy Prime Minister Messages for the PM to Consider	U	0

**THE OFFICE OF THE FIRST MINISTER AND
DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER**

*From the Principal Private Secretary to the
Deputy First Minister*

*Room 20, Parliament Buildings,
Stormont, Belfast BT4 3XX*

(F)
(already on M box)

Mr John Sawers
PS to the Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1A 2AA

22 May 2001

Dear *John*

**DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER MESSAGES FOR THE PRIME
MINISTER TO CONSIDER**

You indicated the Prime Minister would be grateful for suggestions from the Deputy First Minister regarding messages which might be used in a forthcoming Prime Ministerial visit to Northern Ireland.

The Deputy First Minister would suggest the following themes:

- The new institutions do work – first Budget and Programme for Government; North South co-operation which benefits all and threatens none; significant progress on equality and human rights. The Executive is making a difference eg community satisfaction with handling of Foot and Mouth Disease. (In this context it would be helpful if the Prime Minister could reiterate the Government's continued support for regionalisation for Northern Ireland.)
- The Agreement requires political opponents to work together ^{to} take account of each other's views and to work together for the common good. It is not easy, but it is the future. There remains a lot of work to be done to deliver to the people of Northern Ireland the progress they

THE OFFICE OF THE FIRST MINISTER AND DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER

- 2 -

deserve but the Agreement is the basis for progress. Renegotiation is a fantasy.

- In a second term, a Labour Government would act decisively with the Irish Government to help resolve outstanding difficulties – in policing, decommissioning, demilitarisation and nominations to North South meetings.
- There is a widespread acceptance that full implementation of the Agreement is needed. Alongside that, public support for those making the Agreement work is essential.

Yours sincerely

Peter May

PETER MAY

File

FROM: PS/Secretary of State
18 May 2001

JS
MT
JTB
AH

cc: See Distribution List

Mr Jeffrey - O

**PRIME MINISTERIAL VISIT: CONVERSATION WITH DAVID CAMPBELL,
18 MAY**

David Campbell telephoned me this morning about the proposed Prime Ministerial visit to Northern Ireland.

2. David Campbell said the UUP had no knowledge of the source of the article on the front page of this morning's *News Letter*, claiming that the Prime Minister would visit next Tuesday. However, he said that John Taylor MP had contacted him from London yesterday to say that he had heard that the Prime Minister was going to visit. The issue was therefore already being discussed in political and media circles.

3. David Campbell said he also wanted to take the opportunity to feed in some views which had emerged within the UUP. A number of senior party members had emphasised that the Prime Minister should not try to "build up" David Trimble during the visit. This was likely to have the opposite effect to that intended. In light of these views, David Trimble had concluded that the Prime Minister should only undertake the proposed CBI event, and not make a visit to Banbridge Academy or elsewhere in his constituency.

4. David Campbell emphasised that the best help the Prime Minister could give the UUP was to visit Northern Ireland as Prime Minister and demonstrate that it remained part of the UK.

5. Finally, David Campbell asked whether the NIO had any responsibility for organising the proposed visit by former President Clinton next week. He had



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been unable to make contact with the organisers and wanted to feed in some views. I said the NIO was not involved and suggested he should make contact with Queen's and/or Clinton's people. David Campbell said Clinton had asked to meet Seamus Mallon and David Trimble next Thursday afternoon. David Trimble had also been invited to the dinner in Clinton's honour that evening. However, David Campbell's advice was that his boss would be better off canvassing that evening than attending a dinner for someone who was "yesterday's man".

Signed

P G PRIESTLY

Principal Private Secretary

☎ (B) 28110

(L) 6462

cc: PS/Secretary of State (B&L) - O
Mr Watkins - O
Mr Fittall - O
Mr Kelly - O
Ms Hunter, No.10 - E





CONFIDENTIAL
NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE
Block B, Castle Buildings
BELFAST BT4 3SG
Tel (01232) 520700

P. NIVISION.

25 June 1999

Duty Clerk
No 10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

Dear Roz

Meetings with NI Political Parties: 25 June

I list below, as requested, a revised schedule of meetings which will form the basis of this afternoon's visit. These timings have been given to the political parties.

If you need anything further, I can be contacted on 01232 522944 or 0378 905491.

15.20 - 15.50	SDLP
15.50 - 16.20	UUP
16.20 - 17.00	Sinn Fein
17.00 - 17.20	DUP (with PM only)
17.30 - 17.50	Alliance
18.00 - 18.15	PUP
18.15 - 18.30	NIWC
18.30 - 18.45	UDP
18.45 - 19.00	UKUP (TBC) (with PM only)

Tom Watson

.. Depart after

T Watson
Constitutional and Political Division

1845	Depart Castle Buildings	1900
1905	Depart Aldergrove	1920
2020	Arrive Northolt	2035
2050	Arrive No.10	2105

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FROM: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY



NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE
BLOCK B, CASTLE BUILDINGS
BELFAST BT4 3SG

Tel Belfast (01232) 520700

John Sawers Esq
Principal Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1A 2AA

2

25 June 1999

Dear John,

SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS IN CASTLE BUILDINGS NEXT WEEK

My Secretary of State and Paul Murphy have been considering RUC security advice with regard to the issue of personal protection weapons being carried by delegates during discussions in Castle Buildings.

Briefly the RUC are concerned about the Prime Minister's security should the discussions run on consecutive days to the middle of next week.

Their advice is that protection weapons belonging to delegates should not be permitted on the floor being used by the Prime Minister - though his close protection staff will be present throughout. This would result in anyone arriving on the Prime Minister's floor being searched by a magnetic device on each occasion. My Secretary of State takes the view that, as an alternative, a voluntary secure facility, similar to that which was in place throughout the Mitchell Talks (though never used), be installed from Monday, with delegates being made aware of its location and status. This has the advantages of being consistent with past practice while acknowledging the RUC's concerns. However she wants to ensure that these arrangements meet with the Prime Minister's approval.

Perhaps we could have a word on this and confirm arrangements during the course of today's programme

John Perry
NP

NP PERRY

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10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

21 June 1999

Dear Tom,

Many thanks for helping with my visit to Belfast on Tuesday. Everything ran very smoothly, despite being arranged at short notice.

Please pass on my thanks to everyone involved in your team.

Yours ever
Tony

John McFall, Esq., M.P.

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File

From: Philip Barton
Date: 9 June 1999

Jonathan Powell
John Sawers
Alastair Campbell

cc: ~~Anji Hunter~~ o/r
Kate Garvey

VISIT TO NORTHERN IRELAND

We need to decide what the Prime Minister is going to do in Northern Ireland next week. (Anji did not have a chance to take this forward before setting off for Macedonia.)

I attach a first draft of the programme. We need to consider the following:

- (i) **Speech venue** – NIO have not come up with any particularly attractive ideas. I have had a brief discussion with Tom Kelly. He agreed that we might aim for a business audience. We might ask the Group of 8 to suggest a venue and aim for a hi-tec company, rather than somewhere like Shorts. Tom ruled out doing the speech (rather than just a photocall) at the Assembly Debating Chamber and agreed that we should avoid going to the Waterfront yet again.
- (ii) **Meetings** – have I got these right – ie meetings with the big three only?
- (iii) **Media** – speech timed to catch the lunchtime news; doorstep following the meetings in time for the evening news. Is this the right approach?

Views please.

Philip

PHILIP BARTON

VISIT TO NORTHERN IRELAND: TUESDAY, 15 JUNE

0900 Depart No.10
0930 Depart Northolt
1045 Arrive Belfast
1130-1230 Speech at X
1315 Photocall, Assembly Debating Chamber, Parliament Buildings
1330-1415 Meeting with Trimble, Parliament Buildings
1415-1500 Meeting with SDLP
1500-1545 Meeting with Sinn Fein
1600 Doorstep
1645 Depart Belfast
1800 Arrive Northolt
1830 Arrive No.10

APS NI mrm

2.APR.1999 14:10

DR M MOWLAM STORMONT

NO.836 P.1/2

TO:NO 10 DOWNING STREET

FROM: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY



NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE
BLOCK B, CASTLE BUILDINGS
BELFAST BT4 3SG

Tel Belfast (01232) 520700

Mrs Janice Richards
Assistant Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
London SW1A 2AA

BR

2 April 1999

Dear Janice,

As Angi Hunter may have mentioned to you, the visit of the Prime Minister and the Taoiseach to Hazlewood Integrated College on 30 March was an outstanding success.

This was due in no small measure to the efforts of the Principal, Mrs Noreen Campbell, who received very little notice of the visit but nevertheless pulled out all the stops to ensure that everything went smoothly.

We think that it would be appropriate for the Prime Minister to write a letter of thanks to Mrs Campbell. I attach a draft.

Yours ever
J. McKerrill
J McKERVILL

PS/SCS BUL

DRAFT LETTER FROM THE PRIME MINISTER

Mrs Noreen Campbell BA, MA, Dip Ed
Principal
Hazelwood Integrated College
70 Whitewell Road
Newtownabbey
BELFAST
BT36 7ES

April 1999

I wanted to take an early opportunity to write and thank you for your kindness and hospitality when the Taoiseach and I visited the school on 30 March.

I know that you had very little notice of the visit and I was, therefore, immensely impressed with the arrangements which had been made in such a short time and with the quiet efficiency with which you and your staff dealt with what must have been a major disruption to the normal school routine.

I would be very grateful if you could pass on my personal thanks to Trevor Parkhill and the other Governors, to the teachers and other staff and to the parents who were involved.

A special word of thanks goes to the students, particularly those who participated in the question and answer session. Their challenging and perceptive questions certainly put both the Taoiseach and me on our mettle. They were a real credit to the school.

On the broader political front, I think that real progress was made during our visit and I look forward to moving ahead with the full implementation of the Belfast Agreement in the near future, a view which I know is shared by the great majority of people throughout Northern Ireland.

With renewed thanks and very best wishes.

TONY BLAIR MP



D.C.O.
to file

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

31 March 1999

To all the staff at
Hillsborough

I cannot thank you enough
for all the hard work over the
past few days, which you put in.
You were marvellous.

Thank you,

Tony Blair



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

30 March 1999

Dear Noreen,

Thank you so much for all you did to make my visit to Hazelwood School such a great success today. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting all the staff and pupils and to take part in such a lively Q&A session.

I was most impressed with all the new building work and delighted to be able to plant a tree in the grounds.

I know how much work is involved in my visits and I am particularly grateful to everyone for making such excellent arrangements at short notice.

Please pass on my best wishes to all the staff and pupils.

Yours ever
Tony Blair

Ms Noreen Campbell

6/4
AM