

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

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From: Roderic Lyne  
Date: 6 December 1993

PRIME MINISTER

cc Sir Robin Butler  
Miss Phillips

**NORTHERN IRELAND: US AMBASSADOR**

Ray Seitz telephoned this morning to say that it would be very helpful if he could have a brief word with you about Northern Ireland at whatever we judged to be an appropriate moment over the next week or two. The purpose would be to enable him to reflect directly a conversation with you in his reporting to the White House.

Robin Butler and I have been keeping Ray up to speed. I gave him a read out on the Dublin meeting, and encouraged him to obtain further briefing from Robin after the talks with Nally tomorrow. He will not, therefore, need a long discussion with you. But the underlying thought is clearly that Ray wishes to counter a stream of reporting hitting the White House from Jean Kennedy Smith, his counterpart in Dublin. As one would expect, she is talking a great deal to Reynolds and others.

Ray Seitz has consistently and strongly warned the Clinton Administration not to get sucked into an intervention on Irish affairs. Thus far, his advice has been heeded. He himself is sympathetic and on-side. He will be staying at Hillsborough next weekend with Sir P Mayhew.

I told Ray that I would try to slip a meeting into your diary before we hit the next crunch point with the Irish - whether it was in Brussels or, perhaps more likely, afterwards.

*Roderic Lyne*

RODERIC LYNE

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