



BF with Foreign in 3/8

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

Prime Minister

31 July 1981

R M J Lyne Esq
Private Secretary
The Rt Hon The Lord Carrington KCMG MC
Secretary of State
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
LONDON SW1

Dear Roderic

We had a word on the telephone on Monday evening about the arrangements for briefing the Prime Minister on the Gleneagles Agreement and in particular on discussion of the Agreement at the forthcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government conference.

I know that our officials are in almost constant touch but as a general rule it would be very useful, and Mr Monro would be grateful, if he could be consulted on the terms of FCO advice before it is offered to No. 10. I suppose that there is no clear delineation of responsibilities for the Agreement between our two Departments, but Mr Monro, as Minister for Sport, is widely regarded by Members of Parliament, members of the Conservative Party, and sportsmen and sporting organisations as the responsible Minister. This means that he receives a good deal of comment from all these areas about the Agreement and is therefore perhaps best placed to inject into the Prime Minister's briefing the feeling of those concerned at the grass roots in Britain. He does of course handle adjournment debates on the Agreement.

On a more practical level, for an Agreement such as Gleneagles to work, it must be accepted by those at whom it is directed - basically sportsmen and their governing bodies. One of our difficulties in attempting to enforce the present Agreement has been that sport, as a whole, considers that it was neither consulted nor represented at the Gleneagles conference. There is of course an argument for saying that it need not have been; but in practical terms there is quite a bit to be said for Mr Monro not only to be playing a role but also being seen to be playing a role.

I appreciate that it is not always possible for you to consult us before offering advice to the Prime Minister simply because there might not be time. There must be exceptions to every rule; but on these occasions I should be grateful if you would ensure that we receive a copy of whatever is sent as soon as possible.

I am sending a copy of this to Willie Rickett at No. 10.

*Yours ever
W L Smith*

W L SMITH
Private Secretary



DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

12 July 1983

Dear Mr Bailey

Mr Macfarlane has asked me to draw your attention to the attached Parliamentary Answer which he gave on Friday 8 July.

Yours sincerely
W L Smith

W L SMITH
Private Secretary

Jack Bailey Esq

SUBJECT

cc Master



Note

This record should be kept on file for internal use. It should not be sent to Mr. Monro's office. I have discussed the outcome of the meeting with PS/mr Monro.

WBSH
8/6

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

4 June 1981

PM

Dear Warwick

As you know, Mr. Monro had a meeting with the Prime Minister last night at 2130.

The Prime Minister opened the meeting by asking for a report on soccer hooliganism following the incidents in Switzerland. She said that such incidents gave the country, and not just British football, a bad name. She had been questioned about the subject at the last Summit Meeting in Venice. She asked whether there was any action the Government could take, for instance by exerting financial pressure on the Football Association. Countries should not have to plan on making extensive security arrangements when playing matches against British teams. Mr. Monro explained that the responsibility for keeping order at football matches lay in the first place with the sporting authorities, though the Government was kept informed. He had asked the Chairman and Secretary of the Football Association to meet him after the International against Hungary. He would impress on them the importance of maintaining order at football matches to preserve the country's prestige abroad. He regretted that Sir Harold Thompson would shortly be retiring as Chairman of the FA. The FA did not receive any Government assistance, and it was therefore impossible for the Government to put financial pressure on the Association; but, in any case, Mr. Monro did not consider such pressure was needed.

There was some discussion of the possibility of controlling the supply of tickets to British fans more closely. Mr. Monro explained that the major difficulty was that tickets could usually be purchased at the ground, so reducing the effectiveness of controls within the UK. There had been some arrests following the incidents in Switzerland. He would check whether the passports of those involved had been marked in any way, since this would be one way of identifying those with records of hooliganism.

The meeting then went on to discuss the Gleneagles Agreement. Mr. Monro explained that there was a strong feeling within the Conservative Party that the terms of the Agreement should be relaxed. There was an Adjournment Debate that night on a motion from John Carlisle, who would undoubtedly call for a firm stand on relaxation of the Agreement. However, the Government was almost certain to face pressure at the Commonwealth Heads of

/ Government

Government Meeting in October to abide more strictly by the terms of the Agreement. Mr. Monro asked the Prime Minister whether she felt the UK should be lobbying for a relaxation of the Agreement, or should leave this to other countries. There were very few Commonwealth countries that would support the relaxation of the Agreement. The Prime Minister said that Mr. Fraser would almost certainly put the Gleneagles Agreement on the Agenda for the CHGM. He had been irritated at the South African Rugby Tour in New Zealand because of its possible repercussions on the Commonwealth Games in Brisbane. The Prime Minister said that she felt the Gleneagles Agreement was already tight enough. The UK should continue to resist pressures to interpret it more strictly, by the drawing up of blacklists or otherwise. She agreed that there would be little support for this line at the CHGM. New Zealand and Fiji might be willing to give support. But the large countries like Canada and Australia would not. It would also be difficult to win positive support from the world sporting authorities.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister agreed that it would be very useful if an early start could be made to preparing briefing for the CHGM. This should include information on what South Africa is doing to relax its apartheid laws, and details of sporting links between South Africa and other countries. It should also include background information on any discriminatory or repressive laws in countries who criticised sporting links with South Africa. The brief should also address the case for modifying the Gleneagles Agreement. Finally, the Prime Minister said that the Government should be ready to lobby Fiji and New Zealand for support. Many Heads of Commonwealth Governments would be in London for the Royal Wedding, and this might be a useful opportunity for lobbying.

Yours ever

Mike Pattison

W. Smith, Esq.,
Office of the Minister for Sport,
Department of the Environment.



Prime Minister


10 DOWNING STREET

Caroline Stephens

Herewith letter, enclosure and my acknowledgement from Jim Spicer.

This correspondence should be available to the Prime Minister when she meets Hector Monro on Tuesday, 19th May.

11th May, 1981


Ian Gow.

please add to meetings folder.



10 DOWNING STREET

11th May, 1981

Thank you so much for your letter of 6th May,
with its most interesting enclosure, which
I have shown to the Prime Minister.

Ian Gow

Jim Spicer, Esq., M.P.



10 DOWNING STREET

PRIME MINISTER

I attach a letter from the Department of the Environment mentioning what Mr. Monro wishes to discuss.

I also attach a copy of the Gleneagles Agreement.

S J Pine
HP CS.

11 May 1981

FROM JIM SPICER, MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

6th May, 1981

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Ian Gow, Esq., MP,
10 Downing Street,
London, S.W.1.

Ian Gow

You may not know that Hector Monro asked me to keep a general eye on matters relating to the Sports Council and Parliament.

Quite obviously the Gleneagles Agreement is going to figure very centrally at the Commonwealth Conference and it is with this in mind that Laddie Lucas and I discussed this resolution.

He is certain it will be carried and it is then my intention to follow up by taking a selected group of sportsmen to see Peter Carrington and discuss the general problem of the black list.

I will keep you in touch.

Ian Gow

Enc.

Copy to Laddie Lucas, Esq.



MR. MONRO

JJS

14/5

CF ~~14/5~~ 29/5

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

1 May 1981

Carshie

Have you heard anymore?

Kay

13/5

I am writing to confirm that Mr. Monro will be coming to see the Prime Minister at 1600 hours on Tuesday 19 May in her room at the House of Commons, and we would be grateful if you could let us know the subjects he wishes to discuss with her.

Kay

Yes - have already done meetings
Folder - NFA removed
Mankel ep. 14/5

CAROLINE STEPHENS

G.J. Needham, Esq.,
Department of the Environment.

VLS