



Tony

My job

Saturday evening

PPA

3/5/97

1. If your mind is frankly made up, I just beg you to let me up in a job in which I am neither an ~~mere~~ ornament nor a Cork lobbying, uninformated and ineffective, in the government machine.
2. If I am to become Minister without Portfolio

I would like you to support the following terms:

- a) I have a clear strategic and political role in the government, with access by you to the Central Strategic decisions of government, for example Economic, Europe, welfare and important policy reviews in other areas. This means, as Brian Mackinnon had, attendance at Cabinet, membership of Cabinet Committee, readership of Cabinet papers so that I can submit papers to you.
- b) I have a fully functioning office in the Cabinet Office, with a proper private office. Mackinnon had this but his main office was at C.C.O.



I would not operate from Millbank Tower! I must be a government not party animal, primarily.

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c) I support Alistair, and fight for him, but I am not portrayed in any way as a 'spin-doctor'.

Remember, he is staying and I am moving on so the systems we create must endure after six months.

d) I am assisted in the Cabinet Office by two Special advisors: one should be Benjamin who will handle all party political liaison (as he has been doing for the last year) with Millbank etc; and the other, I suggest Roger, who will advise on strategic questions and policy reviews. If Roger does this, he could be a member of the No 10 Policy Unit (as I have already recommended to you) but liaise specifically with me.

3. Chris Patten and Kenneth Baker were above Commissioners of the Inquiry when Chairman of the Party. This gave them residual government functions for a couple of hours a week so they were paid from government funds, with full government back up and car etc. I suggest this is a useful model.

Ends