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Letter Tony Blair MP
Prime Minister

16th October 2002

Dear Tony



IRAC: US

Attached is my note from my tête-à-tête with Powell yesterday. Please read it. It will give you a flavour of the intense & dangerous arguments within the administration.

You asked me at the PLP whether Powell was "winning". He's fighting hard certainly, & I think he should win in the end. But you - TB - are critical in this & I think you now need to give some clear message to Bush that we'll have to settle for a two-resolution approach; that it is safe to do so; & that the non-US approach being pushed by Cheney et al. would be a catastrophe for the character of your

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personal authority, making
where you could get support, still
can obtain legal authority. In other
words, you need to tell him that
you've got politics too. At present,
partly because they are mesmerized
with your authority in British politics,
they (White House) take your support for
any old position for granted. This @ is
to mislead your position @ weakens
people like Bowen.

David + I can work up a good case
for two resolutions to put to Bush -
not a climb-down or wing-out, but a
way of squaring - then cornering China -
by a private deal with him on the second
resolution.

See you tomorrow morning.

Yours,

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