

Draft to Lord North
New May 26th 1778.

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Lord North, You cannot be surpris'd that the degree to which You have press'd to resign, during the space of the last three months, has given me much uneasiness, but it never made me harbour any thought to the disadvantage of Your worth; now You are alarm'd least You have offended me when there is not the smallest reason for it, as You have declared a resolution of continuing if I cannot make an arrangement to my satisfaction, this declaration has thoroughly satisfied Me and I hope in a few days to be able to decide whether I can make a proper arrangement, or whether agreeable to Your present request I shall think it best to continue You in Your present Office, in either case You shall by deeds not words see that I have a real regard for You.

M^r. Wentworth's intelligence if confirm'd by other quarters will require the former orders to be given to Vice Admiral Byron, but it is not authentic enough to any step which is unsupported by corroborating circumstances.

[Faint, illegible handwritten text in cursive script, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]