

GPS 200
UNCLASSIFIED
FM ALGIERS 142035Z JANUARY 1982
TO FLASH FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 23 OF 14 JANUARY 1982
AND TO FLASH PARIS AND DAKAR

FOR NUMBER 10
ALGIERS TEL NO 22 AND TELECON WITH COLES AT 141920Z: PARIS-
DAKAR RALLY.
FROM MCLEAN

1. VICE-CONSUL HAS TELEPHONED FROM GENDARMERIE HEADQUARTERS IN TAMRANSSET TO AMPLIFY REPORT IN MY TUR.
2. HE CONFIRMED THAT MR MARK THATCHER AND HIS TWO COMPANIONS HAD BEEN PICKED UP BY ALGERIAN FRONTIER POLICE AND TAKEN BY LANDROVER TO TIMEIAQUINE. THE THREE WERE ALL SAID TO BE IN GOOD HEALTH.
3. IT SEEMS THAT, REMAINING UNAWARE THROUGH LACK OF RADIO CONTACT OF PLANS SET OUT IN ALGIERS TEL NO 21, RESCUERS MADE CONTACT IN TIMEIAQUINE WITH RALLY ORGANISER, SABINE, WHO OFFERED TO FLY PARTY IN HIS AIRCRAFT TO TISSALIT (MALI), AND HAVING REFUELLED THERE TO FLY TO TAMANRASSET. SINCE TISSALIT SEEMED UNLIKELY TO HAVE NIGHT EQUIPMENT, MORGAN THOUGHT IT PROBABLE THAT MR THATCHER WOULD NOT ARRIVE AT TAMANRASSET UNTIL MORNING OF 15 JANUARY. (SINCE THIS REPORT, PARIS-BASED PRESS ENQUIRIES HAVE BEEN ASSURING US THAT SABINE ORGANISATION HAS ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO FLY PARTY TO TIMBUKTU.)
4. MR DENIS THATCHER AND AMBASSADOR HAD RETURNED TO HOTEL TAHAT AT TAMANRASSET WHERE MR THATCHER PLANNED TO TELEPHONE NO 10 WITH LATEST NEWS. HE HAD COMMENTED THAT ALGERIANS HAD DONE A WONDERFUL JOB. HE AND AMBASSADOR HAD FLOWN IN HERCULES OVER AREA WHERE SIGHTING WAS MADE.
5. MR MARK THATCHER HAD BEEN TOLD THAT HIS FATHER WAS WAITING IN TAMANRASSET.
6. PRESIDENT CHADLI HAD SENT HIS PERSONAL PLANE TO TAMANRASSET, AND HAD OFFERED TO FLY THE GROUP HOME.

STRACHAN

LIMITED
NENAD
WAD
CRD
PCD
CONS D
DEF D
NEWS D
PS
PS/LPS

PS/MR HURD
PS/PUS
MR WRIGHT
MR MOBERLY
SIR L. ALLINSON
LORD N.G. LENNOX

COPIES TO
PS/NO 10 DOWNING ST

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1914

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MR WRIGHT
Sri L. AUSTIN
MR MOTHERBY
LORD N G. LENTON
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HD NEMAD

FLASH

GPS 40
UNCLASSIFIED
FM ALGIERS 141855Z JANUARY 1982
TO FLASH FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 22 OF 14 JANUARY 1982
AND TO FLASH PARIS AND DAKAR

RC
(LAL)

FOR NUMBER 10
ALGIERS TEL NO 21 AND TELECON WITH WHITMORE AT 1825Z: PARIS-DAKAR RAK
FROM MCLEAN

1. MFA DUTY OFFICER TELEPHONED AT 1820Z TO SAY THAT MR MARK
THATCHER AND TZO COMPANIONS WERE SAFE AND BEING AIRLIFTED TO
TAMRANSSET. HE COULD NOT GIVE FURTHER DETAILS OR ESTIMATE ARRIVAL
TIME BUT PROMISED FURTHER INFORMATION AS SOON AS AVAILABLE.

STRACHAN

NNNN

CCN PARA 1 2ND LINE THIRD WORD SHOULD READ TWO NOT TZO
COMPANIONS. ERROR REGRETTEED.

PRODRON ALGERE
24961 PRDRME G

PRODRM ALGERE
24962 PRDRME GV ALGERE
PRODRM ALGERE
24962 PRDRME GZZ FCO

ADVANCE COPY

ZZ PARIS

ZZ DAKAR

GPS 100
UNCLASSIFIED
FM ALGIERS 141330Z JANUARY 1982
TO FLASH FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 21 OF 14 JANUARY 1982
AND TO FLASH PARIS AND DAKAR

FOR NUMBER 10
ALGIERS TEL NO 20 AND TELECON ZITH COLES AT 1315Z: PARIS-DAKAR
RALLY.
FROM MCLEAN

15
X
11
11

Ad JENAD, WAD, CD
PCD, Consular Dept,
Defence Dept, News Dept
Ps, Ps/LES, Ps/Mr. Hurd
Ps/Pos, Mr. Wright
Mr. Mobley,
Sir. L. Allinson
Ld W.G. Lennox.

~~to~~ to
Downing
St.

1. VICE-CONSUL TELEPHONED FROM TAMANRASSET AT 1250Z.
2. ALGERIAN HERCULES PILOT, RETURNING TO BASE, HAD REPORTED POSITIVE SITING OF WHITE PEUGEOT 504 AND OF FOUR PEOPLE, ONE OF THEM FEMALE, AT OUED TAOUNDART, MAP REFERENCE N 20324, E 002323.
3. GENDARMERIE LANDROVER HAD REACHED THE SITE BUT WAS OUT OF RADIO CONTACT. A HELICOPTER WAS NOW TRANSPORTING A SECOND LANDROVER WHICH WOULD BE DROPPED TO DRIVE THE LAST 120 KILOMETRES, BEFORE RETURNING TO HELICOPTER WITH THE RESCUED PARTY. EARLIEST THEY COULD BE EXPECTED BACK IN TAMANRASSET WAS 1800Z.
4. AMBASSADOR HAS EMPHASISED THAT THIS SITING, WHILST ENCOURAGING, CANNOT YET BE SAID WITH CERTAINTY TO BE OF MR MARK THATCHER'S PARTY. WE ARE TAKING THIS LINE WITH THE PRESS.
5. MORGAN SAID THAT OTHER AIRCRAFT ENGAGED IN SEARCH HAD NOT YET RETURNED TO BASE TO MAKE THEIR REPORTS.

STRACHAN

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PRODRM ALGERE
24962 PRDRME GO