

RESTRICTED

GRS 230
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FM MADRID 291528Z NOV 82
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 635 OF 29 NOVEMBER
INFOPRIORITY GOVERNOR GIBRALTAR(PERSONAL)
INFO ROUTINE BRUSSELS

BRUSSELS TELNO 1: GIBRALTAR

MANY THANKS. WE HAVE NOW OBTAINED A TRANSCRIPT OF THE INTERVIEW WITH MORAN FROM THE RTBF CORRESPONDENT IN MADRID. THE INTERVIEW, WHICH IS TO BE PUBLISHED TODAY IN LA LIBRE BELGIQUE, ALSO CONTAINS REFERENCES TO NATO AND OTHER SUBJECTS. A COPY IN FRENCH FOLLOWS BY BAG.

2. TEXT ON GIBRALTAR IS:-

BEGINS

Q. FELIPE GONZALEZ HAS SAID THAT HE IS IN FAVOUR OF OPENING THE FRONTIER WITH GIBRALTAR. WILL YOU OPEN IT THIS YEAR?

A. ON GIBRALTAR, WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO ASK FOR REINTEGRATION INTO SPANISH TERRITORY AND TO CONTINUE TO PRESS THE SPANISH CLAIM, BUT WE DO NOT WANT TO PENALISE THE POPULATION OF GIBRALTAR. PERSONALLY, I AM NOT CONVINCED THAT THE OPENING OF THE GATE WILL HAVE ANY IMMEDIATE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS, BUT I AM IN FAVOUR OF OPENING IT ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS AND FOR REASONS OF INTERNATIONAL ETHICS.

Q. IMMEDIATELY?

A. VERY SOON.

Q. COULD ONE SPECULATE ON A PRE-CHRISTMAS OPENING?

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/ A. YES

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A. YES ONE COULD SPECULATE ON THAT (SEMI-COLON) EVIDENTLY IT DEPENDS ON THE RESPONSE FROM THE OTHER SIDE, THE ENGLISH, BUT I THINK ONE COULD SPECULATE ON THAT SORT OF DATE.

Q. BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR, THEN?

A. YES. ONE COULD IMAGINE THAT.

ENDS

PARSONS

LIMITED
SED
DEFENCE D.
NEWS.D.
PUSD
ECD (E)
PLANNING STAFF
PS
PS/MR HURD
PS/LORD BELSTEAD
PS/PUS
SIR J BULLARD
MR. GOODISON
MR. GILLMORE
MR. HANNAY

ADDITIONAL DISTN
GIBRALTAR

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