

DELFO 005/10

OO GIBRALTAR

OO FCO DESKBY 101230Z

OO MADRID DESKBY 101230Z

Advance

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CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY 101230Z FCO MADRID AND GIBRALTAR

FM UKDEL NATO 101125Z DEC 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 482 OF 10 DECEMBER

INFO IMMEDIATE MADRID GIBRALTAR (PERSONAL FOR GOVERNOR)

INFO SAVING PARIS BONN WASHINGTON LISBON UKREP BRUSSELS

M

FOLLOWING FROM PRIVATE SECRETARY/SECRETARY OF STATE'S MEETING WITH THE SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAD A FRIENDLY FIRST MEETING WITH MORAN THIS MORNING. THE TEXT OF THE AGREED PRESS LINE IS IN UKDEL TELNO 481.

2. MORAN SEEMED PLEASED BY THE RECEPTION GIVEN TO HIS STATEMENT YESTERDAY (UKDEL NATO TEL 474). HE COULD NOT TELL HOW LONG THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT WOULD NEED TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE BUT RECOGNISED THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE PROLONGED UNNECESSARILY. IN THE MEANTIME SPAIN WAS BOUND BY THE TREATY AND ITS OBLIGATIONS. THE SECRETARY OF STATE EMPHASISED HIS UNDERSTANDING FOR THE SPANISH POSITION AND READINESS TO GIVE HER TIME TO DECIDE. IT WAS A MATTER FOR THE JUDGEMENT OF THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT BUT SHOULD NOT BE DELAYED MORE THAN THEY JUDGED ESSENTIAL. FULL SPANISH MEMBERSHIP INVOLVED MUTUAL ADVANTAGES. HE HOPED THE SPANISH PEOPLE WOULD SEE IT THAT WAY.

SPAIN-EEC

3. THE SECRETARY OF STATE EMPHASISED OUR ROLE IN TRYING TO MOVE THE NEGOTIATIONS ALONG. WE HOPED THAT SPANISH ENTRY WOULD HAPPEN AS SOON AFTER 1 JANUARY 1984 AS POSSIBLE.

TRADE RELATIONS

4. MORAN RAISED THE QUESTION OF CAR IMPORTS. THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT WAS WILLING TO EXPLORE, WITHIN THEIR LEGISLATION, WHAT COULD BE DONE. HE PROPOSED OFFICIAL DISCUSSIONS ON THE PROBLEM. THE SECRETARY OF STATE WELCOMED THIS, HE POINTED OUT THAT THE PROBLEM WOULD NOT EXIST IF SPAIN WAS IN THE COMMUNITY AND EMPHASISED OUR NEED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WERE INEQUITABLE AS BETWEEN US AND OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBERS.

GIBRALTAR

5. MORAN EMPHASISED THAT THE DECISION TO OPEN THE BORDER TO PEDESTRIANS WAS THE NEW SPANISH GOVERNMENT'S FIRST DECISION. HE HAD VISITED GIBRALTAR (IN THE CONTEXT OF A QUOTE MAN ALIVE UNQUOTE PROGRAMME) BEFORE THE SPANISH ELECTION AND MADE IT CLEAR THERE THAT IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE FOR SPAIN TO TRY TO INTEGRATE

X GIBRALTAR AGAINST THE WILL OF THE POPULATION. THEY HAD INHERITED THE LISBON AGREEMENT. THEY WOULD NOT NECESSARILY HAVE DONE THINGS EXACTLY THAT WAY THEMSELVES, BUT ACCEPTED THAT IT WAS A GOOD BASIS FROM WHICH TO MOVE FORWARDS AND WERE READY TO IMPLEMENT IT.

6. THE SECRETARY OF STATE EMPHASISED THAT WE HAD AT ALL TIMES BEEN READY TO IMPLEMENT IT BUT HAD AGREED TO POSTPONEMENT IN JUNE AT SPANISH REQUEST. WE DID NOT REGARD THE FRONTIER OPENING FOR PEDESTRIANS AS CONSTITUTING IMPLEMENTATION (MORAN COMMENTED THAT IT WAS IN KEEPING WITH PARAGRAPH 3 OF THE LISBON AGREEMENT). HE WAS CONCERNED THAT EXPECTATIONS SHOULD NOT BE RAISED TOO QUICKLY IN SPAIN. A PROCESS COULD START WHICH MIGHT IN DUE TIME LEAD TO SOMETHING CLOSE TO WHAT SPAIN WANTED. OPINION IN GIBRALTAR WAS HOWEVER THE KEY.

7. MORAN SAID THAT MOST PEOPLE IN SPAIN KNEW THAT THE PROCESS WOULD TAKE SOMETIME. HOWEVER RESTORATION OF THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF SPAIN REMAINED A FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVE HE THOUGHT WE SHOULD BOTH BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE INCREASINGLY NATIONALISTIC SPIRIT AMONG YOUNGER GIBRALTARIANS. THE DECISION TO RE-OPEN THE FRONTIER WAS BEING CRITICISED BY SOME IN SPAIN AS GIVING SOMETHING FOR NOTHING. THERE WAS NO DIRECT LINK BETWEEN IT AND BRITISH ACTIONS. HE HOPED HOWEVER THAT THERE WOULD BE A LINK IN SPIRIT. HE PROPOSED THAT TALKS SHOULD START FROM WHICH NO ISSUE WAS EXCLUDED. SOVEREIGNTY WOULD NOT BE THE FIRST ISSUE FOR DISCUSSION BUT HE WOULD EXPECT THE BRITISH SIDE TO TAKE NOTE AT THE OUTSET THAT IT WAS INCLUDED.

8. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SAID THAT THE FIRST STEP MUST BE TO SEE WHEN AND IN WHAT WAY THE LISBON AGREEMENT COULD BE IMPLEMENTED. SPAIN'S AIMS COULD ONLY BE ACHIEVED BY PERSUADING THE GIBRALTARIANS TO FEEL THAT THEY COULD MAKE PROGRESS WITH SPAIN. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COULD BE THE BEGINNING OF SUCH A PROCESS. PERHAPS AND HOPEFULLY IT COULD LEAD IN A CHANGE IN ATTITUDES. IF THE SPANIARDS REFERRED TO SOVEREIGNTY HE WOULD HAVE TO RESPOND IN A WAY WHICH PROTECTED THE POSITION OF THE GIBRALTARIANS. THE MORE THIS ISSUE WAS EMPHASISED THE MORE THE GIBRALTARIANS WOULD FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE.

X 9. MORAN EMPHASISED AGAIN THAT HE WOULD NOT MOVE AGAINST THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF GIBRALTAR. ARTICLE 144 OF THE SPANISH CONSTITUTION DEVOLVED IMPORTANT POWERS. (THERE WAS AN ANALOGY WITH CHINESE THINKING ABOUT THE FUTURE OF TAIWAN AND HONG KONG). HE HAD SAID IN GIBRALTAR THAT HE WAS THINKING OF GOING EVEN FURTHER THAN THIS. PROVIDED THAT THE INTEGRITY OF SPANISH TERRITORY WAS RECOGNISED, QUESTIONS LIKE THE RETENTION OF BRITISH NATIONALITY COULD BE ACCEPTED.

10. THE SECRETARY OF STATE EMPHASISED AGAIN THAT THE FINAL OUTCOME WAS NOT IN OUR CONTROL BUT IN THAT OF THE GIBRALTARIANS. WE SHOULD PROCEED GRADUALLY AND GENTLY. WE SHOULD CONSIDER WHEN AND WHERE TO MEET AGAIN IN THE CONTEXT OF IMPLEMENTING OF THE LISBON AGREEMENT. OFFICIALS SHOULD MEET TO DISCUSS THE DETAILS WE WOULD MEANWHILE KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH GIBRALTAR. MORAN AGREED THAT THIS PREPARATION SHOULD INCLUDE DISCUSSION OF OUTSTANDING ISSUES SUCH AS THOSE RELATING TO AIR TRAFFIC, BUT ADDED THAT RESOLUTION OF THESE SHOULD NOT BE SET AS A PRECONDITION FOR FURTHER PROGRESS. IT WAS AGREED THAT OFFICIAL DISCUSSIONS WOULD TAKE PLACE IN THE NEW YEAR. MORAN SAID THAT HE WAS THINKING OF IMPLEMENTATION IN JANUARY OR FEBRUARY. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SAID THAT IT MIGHT BE WISER TO THINK OF A LATER DATE, PERHAPS MARCH OR APRIL TO GIVE US TIME TO SORT OUT OTHER QUESTIONS. IT WAS AGREED THAT IN PUBLIC COMMENT BOTH SIDES WOULD REFER TO THE SPRING.

THE MOLE

11. THE SECRETARY OF STATE RAISED THIS ISSUE AS ONE WHICH IT WAS IMPORTANT TO RESOLVE: SIR R PARSONS WOULD TAKE THE MATTER UP IN MADRID.

VISIT BY PRIME MINISTER

12. MORAN REFERRED TO CALVO SOTELO'S VISIT TO LONDON. HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE HAPPY TO WELCOME MRS THATCHER TO SPAIN. THE FALKLAND'S ISSUE HAD CREATED NO REACTION AGAINST BRITAIN IN SPAIN AND THEY WANTED TO CORRECT ANY IMPRESSION IN BRITAIN TO THE CONTRARY. HE SPOKE OF A VISIT BEFORE THE SUMMER. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SAID THAT HE WOULD CONVEY THE INVITATION BUT POINTED OUT THAT THE PRIME MINISTERS DIARY FOR 1983 WAS ALREADY VERY FULL.

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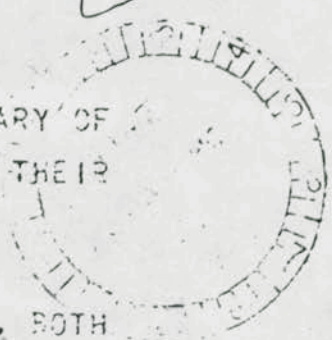
TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 431 OF 10 DECEMBER

INFO IMMEDIATE MADRID GIBRALTAR (PERSONAL FOR GOVERNOR)

MS (Mr Synnott)

[united]



FROM HEAD OF NEWS DEPARTMENT

FOLLOWING IS THE PRESS LINE AGREED BETWEEN THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER AT THE END OF THEIR MEETING THIS MORNING.

BEGINS

THE TALKS WERE HELD IN A WARM AND FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE. BOTH MINISTERS EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THEY WANTED THE BEST POSSIBLE RELATIONS. THEY TALKED FIRST ABOUT THE PRESENT NAC MEETING, NATO MATTERS AND THE SPANISH POSITION SEMI COLON THEY THEN TALKED ABOUT SPAIN'S APPLICATION TO JOIN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THE SUPPORT GIVEN THROUGHOUT BY BRITAIN, TOGETHER WITH THE BRITISH HOPE THAT SPANISH ACCESSION WOULD BE ACHIEVED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THEY THEN DISCUSSED BILATERAL RELATIONS, INCLUDING GIBRALTAR. THEY REPEATED THEIR ADHERENCE TO THE LISBON AGREEMENT AND DISCUSSED IMPLEMENTATION. THEY ARRANGED FOR OFFICIALS TO MEET TO CONSIDER DETAILS AND DECIDED TO MEET WITH A VIEW TO IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT IN THE SPRING.

OPEN SQUARE BRACKETS IF PRESSED ON THE PRECISE LIKELY DATE CLOSE SQUARE BRACKETS THIS IS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION.

ENDS

GRAHAM

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