

FOBONN 064/09

PP BONN

GRS 250

CONFIDENTIAL

FM MADRID 091203Z JUN 82

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 330 OF 9 JUNE

INFO PRIORITY LISBON, BONN,

INFO ROUTINE GOVERNOR GIBRALTAR (PERSONAL)

YOUR TELEGRAM NO. 197 : MESSAGE TO SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER

1. I TOOK ACTION ON RECEIPT OF TUR WITH THE HEAD OF PEREZ LLORCA'S PRIVATE OFFICE ON 8 JUNE. SOIGNIE SAID THAT HIS MINISTER WOULD BE GRATIFIED WITH THIS MESSAGE, THOUGH HE HAD A GOOD DEAL ON HIS PLATE AT THE MOMENT (BY IMPLICATION ON THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL FRONT AS WELL AS EXTERNAL). PEREZ LLORCA LOOKED FORWARD TO MEETING YOU IN BONN ON 10 JUNE BEFORE LUNCH. I STRESSED THE VALUE OF THIS PERSONAL CONTACT AND DREW SOIGNIE'S ATTENTION PARTICULARLY TO THE LAST PARAGRAPH OF YOUR MESSAGE.

2. SOIGNIE SUGGESTED THAT WE SHOULD TURN OUR ATTENTION TO PRACTICAL DETAILS OF THE SINTRA MEETING AFTER THE NATO SUMMIT. HE ASSUMED THAT ALL THAT WAS NEEDED WAS TO REACTIVATE THE ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR THE POSTPONED 20 APRIL MEETING. BUT HE DID NOT KNOW IF ANY STEPS HAD BEEN TAKEN EG TO BOOK HOTEL ROOMS. I SAID THAT WE TOO WOULD HAVE THE PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS IN MIND AND OFFERED TO GET IN TOUCH ABOUT THIS EARLY NEXT WEEK.

3. THE SPANISH PRESS TODAY MAKES SOME PLAY ON MRS THATCHER'S REPLY TO A PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION ON 8 JUNE, POINTING TO HER DEFENCE OF SPANISH MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMUNITY DESPITE SPAIN'S MORAL SUPPORT FOR ARGENTINA AND QUOTING HER HOPE THAT, ON THE SPANISH SIDE, RESTRICTIONS ON GIBRALTAR WOULD BE LIFTED. THE OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS THAT DAY IS NOT MENTIONED.

MAUD

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