

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY 271500Z JAN 84
CONFIDENTIAL UK COMMS ONLY
CYPHER CAT A
FM GIBRALTAR 271100Z JAN 84
TO IMMEDIATE FCO LONDON TEL NO PERSONAL 05 OF 27.1.84
INFO IMMEDIATE MADRID
IMMEDIATE MODUK
SAVING RABAT

MOD FOR DS12 AND CFS

MY TEL NOS 15 AND 16: GIBRALTAR ELECTION

1. THE AACR/GLP POLLED WELL, INCREASING THEIR SHARE OF THE VOTES CAST FROM 40 PERCENT IN 1980 TO 45 POINT 7 PERCENT THIS TIME. NO-ONE EXPECTED THE TOTAL COLLAPSE OF THE DPBG, EVEN THOUGH IT WAS WIDELY EXPECTED THAT THE GSLP WOULD MAKE SOME GAINS AT THEIR EXPENSE. BOSSANO PROJECTED HIMSELF AS A STRONG DEFENDER OF GIBRALTAR'S INTERESTS AND MOULDED HIS YOUNG AND INEXPERIENCED COLLEAGUES INTO A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TEAM.
2. THE POLITICAL POSITION NOW PROMISES TO BE MUCH MORE POLARISED AND DIFFICULT FOR US IN RESPECT OF COMMERCIALISATION OF THE DOCKYARD AND RELATIONS WITH SPAIN INCLUDING DEMANDS FOR SPECIAL PROTECTION FOR GIBRALTAR RELATED TO SPANISH EC MEMBERSHIP.
3. BOSSANO REJECTS THE LISBON AGREEMENT AND HAS NEVER ACCEPTED THE BIPARTISAN POLICY TOWARDS SPAIN CHARACTERISTIC OF THE HASSAN/ISOLA PERIOD. WHEN LAST LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION HE REFUSED CONFIDENTIAL BRIEFING ON THE SPANISH QUESTION. SUBJECT TO YOUR VIEWS, I PROPOSE TO RENEW THE OFFER TO HIM WHEN HE CALLS EARLY NEXT WEEK. I EXPECT HIM TO REJECT IT AGAIN.
4. IN HIS INITIAL COMMENT FOLLOWING THE RESULT, BOSSANO CLAIMED THAT THE COMBINED VOTE OF THE GSLP AND DPBG (51 POINT 6 PERCENT) SHOULD BE SEEN AS REJECTION OF HASSAN'S AGREEMENT WITH HMG ON THE FUTURE OF THE DOCKYARD. GIVEN THE CLOSE LINKS OF THE GSLP AND IGWU (AS WELL AS THE CPSA FOLLOWING MOR'S ELECTION) WE CAN EXPECT THIS ARGUMENT TO BE PRESSED HARD.

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5. HASSAN'S FIRST COMMENTS WERE (WISELY) RESTRICTED TO POINTING TO HIS OWN PARTY'S SUCCESS WHILST ACKNOWLEDGING THAT A NEW SITUATION EXISTED WHICH REQUIRED STUDY. HE HAS OBVIOUSLY BEEN UNDER STRAIN IN RECENT DAYS BUT WILL DRAW STRENGTH FROM TOPPING THE POLL AND FROM CANEPA GAINING SECOND PLACE. I INTEND TO INVITE HIM TO ACCEPT RE-APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF MINISTER LATER TODAY WHEN HE HAS RESTED. I EXPECT MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE EARLY NEXT WEEK.

6. I RECOMMEND THAT YOU SEND A PERSONAL MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS TO HASSAN. BARONESS YOUNG MAY WISH TO DO LIKEWISE. I DO NOT REPEAT NOT FEEL THAT YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH ISOLA WARRANTS A FAREWELL MESSAGE, ALTHOUGH I HAVE WRITTEN TO HIM AND OF COURSE TO BOSSANO. HOWEVER, BARONESS YOUNG RECENTLY SAW ISOLA, AND I AM SURE A MESSAGE FROM HER WOULD BE MUCH APPRECIATED BY HIM. IF THIS IS AGREED I RECOMMEND THE MESSAGE CONCENTRATES OF THANKING HIM FOR HIS PAST SERVICES WITHOUT DWELLING ON POSSIBLE FUTURE INVOLVEMENT IN PUBLIC LIFE, AS THIS REMAINS OBSCURE FOR THE MOMENT.

WILLIAMS

(REPEATED AS REQUESTED)

GIBRALTAR

LIMITED
SED
DEF D
NEWS D
PUSD
ECD(E)
PLANNING STAFF
MAED
PS

PS/LADY YOUNG
PS/MR WHITNEY
PS/PUS
SIR J BULLARD
MR WRIGHT
SIR C TICKELL
MR CARTLEDGE
MR HANNAY
MR JENKINS 2

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION
GIBRALTAR

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