

SUBJECT

cc Master
OPS
30-1-84

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T19/84

Dear Prime Minister,

After a long period of isolation, the Spanish people, as you are no doubt aware, feel a profound need to participate as actively as possible with European institutions. This is a feeling that is fully shared by all political parties.

In particular, we have a special interest in increasing our participation in the Council of Europe, which we believe is crucial to add impetus to the European ideal and strengthen the bonds of cooperations among its member countries.

It is from this point of view and taking particular account of his special qualities, that the Spanish Government's decision to submit the candidature of Don Marcelino Oreja for the post of Secretary General of the Council, must be seen.

While Minister for Foreign Affairs in the transitional period to democracy, Señor Oreja, in contact with all political parties in the parliamentary sphere, took up the important task of integrating Spain with European institutions. He signed Spain's accession to the Council of Europe, as well as the European Convention on Human Rights and the European Social Charter. He likewise presided, for a time, over the Committee of Ministers, and is currently a member of the Parliamentary Assembly.

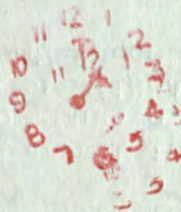
There cannot be any doubt as to his qualities and experience, or as to his European vocation. I must add that Don Marcelino Oreja's candidature receives the clear support of the Spanish political groups represented at the Parliamentary Assembly, going over and beyond any ideological differences that may exist.

I avail myself of this opportunity to assure you of my highest consideration,

(Signed) Felipe González

The Right Honourable
Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.
10, Downing Street,
London S.W.1.

30 JAN 1984
30 JAN 1984



[Faint, illegible handwriting or stamp]



AC

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

31 January 1984

Council of Europe

I regret that my letter of today's date enclosing a letter to the Prime Minister from the Prime Minister of Spain contained an error. It should of course have referred to the candidature of Don Marcelino Oreja for the post of Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

A. J. COLES

Roger Bone, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Mr. Jones

with regard to your letter
of 31-1-84 to Mr. Bone
concerning the Council of
Europe.

The ^{PM}~~President~~ of Spain,
Don Felipe González,
is seeking support for
the candidature of Señor
Don Marcelino Oreja
for the post of Secretary
General.

Peter
31/1



FILE

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

31 January, 1984

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

I enclose a copy of a letter the Prime Minister has received from the Prime Minister of Spain seeking support for the candidature of Don Felipe González for the post of Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

I should be grateful if you could let me have a draft reply for signature by the Prime Minister as soon as possible.

BF

E. J. COLES

R. Bone, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

NR



10 DOWNING STREET

MR. COLES

Please would you take
this from here.

FERB.
.. ..

30 January 1984



File

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

30 January 1984

I am writing to thank you for your letter of 30 January enclosing a translation of a letter which the President of the Spanish Government, Don Felipe Gonzalez is addressing to the Prime Minister. I am of course arranging to lay it before the Prime Minister.

E. E. R. BUTLER

His Excellency
Senor Jose Joaquin Puig de la Bellacasa.



SPANISH AMBASSADOR

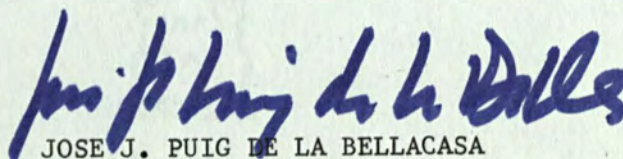
24 BELGRAVE SQUARE
LONDON SW1X 8QA

7th February 1984.

Dear Mr. Butler,

I refer to my letter of the 30th January, enclosing a translation of a communication that the President of the Spanish Government, Don Felipe González, was proposing to address to the Prime Minister. The original has now arrived, and is attached hereto.

Yours sincerely,


JOSE J. PUIG DE LA BELLACASA

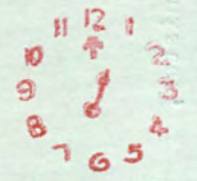
F.E.R. Butler Esq.,
Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister,
Downing Street,
LONDON SW1.

34 BELGRAVE SQUARE
LONDON W1X 8QY

COMMUNICATIONS

INTERNATIONAL

-8 FEB 1984





SPANISH AMBASSADOR

24 BELGRAVE SQUARE
LONDON SW1X 8QA

30th January 1984

Dear Mr. Butler,

I am enclosing the translation of the letter which the President of the Spanish Government, Don Felipe González, is addressing to the Prime Minister. I should be most grateful if you would kindly hand it to Mrs. Thatcher, and inform her that the original will be sent upon arrival.

Yours sincerely,

F.E.R. Butler, Esq.,
Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister,
Downing Street,
London S.W.1.



Felipe González Márquez

El Presidente del Gobierno

Madrid, 27 de enero de 1984

**PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 19/84**

Excma. Sra. Margaret Thatcher
Primer Ministro del
Reino Unido de Gran Bretaña
LONDRES

Señora Primer Ministro:

Como Vd. sabe, el pueblo español, después de un largo período de aislamiento, viene sintiendo la necesidad profunda, que es sostenida por todas las fuerzas políticas, de participar de la manera más activa posible en las instituciones europeas.

En particular, tenemos un especial interés en potenciar nuestra participación en el Consejo de Europa, organización que nos parece fundamental para impulsar el ideal europeo y estrechar los lazos de cooperación entre los países que la integran. Desde esta óptica hay que entender la decisión del Gobierno español de presentar la candidatura de D. Marcelino Oreja a la Secretaría General de esa Organización, teniendo en cuenta los destacados méritos que en su persona concurren.

D. Marcelino Oreja, siendo Ministro de Asuntos Exteriores, en la época de la transición a la democracia, llevó a cabo, en contacto con las demás fuerzas políticas del arco parlamentario, una importante tarea para integrar a España en las instituciones europeas. Concretamente fue él quien firmó la adhesión de España al Consejo de Europa, así como el Convenio Europeo de Derechos Humanos y la Carta Social Europea. Asimismo,

.../...



Felipe González Márquez

El Presidente del Gobierno

presidió el Comité de Ministros durante algún tiempo, y en la actualidad es miembro de la Asamblea Parlamentaria. En suma, su capacidad y experiencia, así como su vocación europea, están fuera de toda duda.

Debo añadir que la candidatura de D. Marcelino Oreja es apoyada de manera clara por los grupos políticos españoles representados en la Asamblea Parlamentaria, más allá de sus diferencias ideológicas.

Aprovecho esta oportunidad para transmitirle el testimonio de mi más alta consideración.

FELIPE GONZÁLEZ