

GRS 300 ~~FRAME EXTERNAL~~
CONFIDENTIAL
FM MADRID 161800Z OCT 84
TO IMMEDIATE FCO

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AMENDED DISTRIBUTION

17/10

TELEGRAM NUMBER 509 OF 16 OCTOBER
INFO IMMEDIATE UKREP BRUSSELS, PARIS, DUBLIN, BONN AND LISBON
INFO SAVING OTHER EC POSTS (FCO PLEASE PASS)

MY TELNO 508: SPAIN/EC

1. FELIPE GONZALEZ SUMMONED EC AMBASSADORS IN MADRID THIS EVENING AND HANDED EACH OF US A LETTER TO OUR HEADS OF GOVERNMENT. THIS DRAWS ATTENTION TO THE CRUCIAL DAYS AHEAD IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH SPAIN, UNDERLINES THE POSITIVE SPANISH ATTITUDE, BOTH AS REGARDS THE OBJECTIVE OF MEMBERSHIP AND THE NEGOTIATIONS, AND EXPRESSES DISQUIET ABOUT THE LACK OF AGREEMENT AMONG THE TEN, WHICH IS CREATING A FEELING OF SCEPTICISM AND DISILLUSION IN SPANISH PUBLIC OPINION. THE LETTER CONCLUDES WITH THE HOPE THAT THE COMMUNITY WILL RISE ABOVE ITS PRESENT DIFFERENCES TO ENABLE SPAIN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE. FULL TEXT IN MIFT.

2. BEFORE HANDING OVER THE LETTERS FELIPE GONZALEZ MADE A NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL POINTS ORALLY. WHILE HE REGARDED THE PRESENT PROCESS AS IRREVERSIBLE, HE DID NOT THINK THE PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE DRAWN OUT INDEFINITELY. HE WAS SERIOUSLY WORRIED THAT IF THE NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUED INTO 1985 THEIR TEMPO WOULD SLACKEN. APART FROM THE PROBLEMS OF CONTENT, HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT THE PRESENT PROCEDURES AND WORKING METHODS. INTERVENTION AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL WAS NOW NECESSARY TO GLOBALISE AND UNBLOCK THE NEGOTIATIONS. THE MEETING ON 23 OCTOBER WOULD BE A KEY ONE, AND HE HOPED THAT FINAL PACKAGES WOULD THEN BE PUT ON THE TABLE.

3. IN THE BRIEF DISCUSSION WHICH FOLLOWED, FELIPE GONZALEZ SUGGESTED THAT THERE WERE POINTS OF DETAIL IN ALL INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS WHICH REMAINED TO BE SOLVED ONCE AGREEMENTS HAD BEEN CONCLUDED: HIS IMPLICATION WAS THAT THIS COULD BE THE CASE WITH SPANISH ACCESSION. HE DID NOT MENTION THE POSSIBILITY OF VISITS BY HIMSELF OR OTHER MINISTERS TO EC CAPITALS (SEE MY TUR) BUT SAID THAT HE WAS OPEN AT ALL TIMES TO CONTACTS AT ANY LEVEL IN ORDER TO GET THINGS MOVING.

4. FELIPE GONZALEZ'S TONE WAS MUCH LESS STIFF THAN THAT OF HIS LETTER. HE SAID THAT THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT DID NOT INTEND TO PUBLISH THIS. COPIES HAD BEEN SENT TO ALL SPANISH MISSIONS IN EC COUNTRIES AS WELL AS THE COMMISSION.

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5. THE ARRIVAL AND RECEPTION OF THE EC AMBASSADORS WAS VERY FULLY COVERED BY THE PRESS AND TELEVISION, THE MEETING HAVING BEEN ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY YESTERDAY. APART FROM THE CONTENT OF HIS MESSAGE FELIPE GONZALEZ WAS CLEARLY CONCERNED TO SHOW SPANISH PUBLIC OPINION THAT THE FULL WEIGHT OF HIS PERSONAL AUTHORITY IS ENGAGED IN THE EC NEGOTIATIONS, AND THAT HE AND HIS GOVERNMENT ARE MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO ADVANCE A PROCESS WHICH COMMANDS WIDE POPULAR SUPPORT IN SPAIN.

6. NOW SEE MIFT.

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GORDON LENNOX

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17/10

FROM MADRID 161800Z OCTOBER 84

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 510 OF 16 OCTOBER 84

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BELOW

MIPT: LETTER FROM SPANISH PRIME MINISTER

1. FOLLOWING IS OUR TRANSLATION OF LETTER DATED 16 OCTOBER FROM SPANISH PRIME MINISTER TO MRS THATCHER.

2. "A YEAR AFTER MY LAST LETTER TO THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE EC COUNTRIES, I CONSIDER IT OPPORTUNE TO WRITE TO YOU AGAIN AT A CRUCIAL MOMENT IN THE CULMINATION OF THE PROCESS OF SPANISH ACCESSION TO THE COMMUNITY.

THE DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE EUROPEAN COUNCILS HELD IN STUTTGART IN JUNE 1983 AND IN FONTAINEBLEU IN JUNE 1984, BOTH IN SO FAR AS THEY REFER TO THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE INCREASE IN OWN RESOURCES AND THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY, AND TO THE AIM THAT THE TREATY OF ACCESSION SHOULD COME INTO FORCE ON 1 JANUARY 1986, MARKED MILESTONES IN THIS PROCESS WHICH WERE VIEWED VERY POSITIVELY BY SPANISH PUBLIC OPINION.

THE POLITICAL WILL TO BRING ABOUT ENLARGEMENT, CLEARLY EXPRESSED IN BOTH EUROPEAN COUNCILS, BLENDED WITH MY COUNTRY'S UNDOUBTED MEMBERSHIP OF THE WESTERN WORLD AND WITH THE IDEAL FOR EUROPEAN INTEGRATION CHERISHED BY THE SPANISH PEOPLE.

HOWEVER AT PRESENT THE PROGRESS OF THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS CAN ONLY BE REGARDED WITH ANXIETY, FUNDAMENTALLY BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF COMMUNITY PROPOSITIONS ON ESSENTIAL POINTS AND CHAPTERS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. THE LACK OF AGREEMENT WITHIN THE COMMUNITY MEANS THAT WE HAVE ALREADY PASSED THE DATE INITIALLY FORECAST BY THE COMMUNITY FOR THE END OF NEGOTIATIONS AND, IF THINGS GO ON AS THEY ARE, MAY ALSO JEOPARDIZE THE TIMETABLE FIXED FOR ENLARGEMENT.

THIS SITUATION IS GENERATING SCEPTICISM AND MOUNTING DISILLUSION IN SPANISH PUBLIC OPINION IN THE FACE OF WHAT IS SEEN AS THE COMMUNITY'S INABILITY TO CONVERT INTO CONCRETE DECISIONS THEIR CLEARLY EXPRESSED POLITICAL WILL, AND TO FULFILL THE COMMITMENTS MADE BY THE COMMUNITY TO THE CANDIDATE COUNTRIES.

I WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE ONCE MORE THAT SPAIN WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN A POSITIVE ATTITUDE, BOTH TOWARDS THE OBJECTIVE PURSUED AND THE FULFILMENT OF HER FORMAL OBLIGATIONS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE.

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THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THAT FULL ADVANTAGE MUST BE TAKEN OF THE DAYS AHEAD TO FIND, THROUGH THE MOST APPROPRIATE NEGOTIATING MECHANISMS, ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS TO ALL THE REMAINING PROBLEMS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF BALANCE, RECIPROCITY AND PROGRESSIVITY HALLOWED IN THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

IF THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE TO REACH A SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION, THE SACRIFICES MUST BE FAIRLY DIVIDED AMONG EVERYBODY, SETTING ASIDE ANY TEMPTATION TO TRY TO MAKE THEM FALL EXCLUSIVELY ONTO THE CANDIDATE COUNTRIES.

IN THIS WAY, BY MEANS OF FAIR, EFFICIENT AND LASTING SOLUTIONS, ENLARGEMENT CAN BE ACHIEVED AS INTENDED AND MY COUNTRY WILL THEREFORE BE ABLE TO COOPERATE CLOSELY WITH OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND, WITH THEM, CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROSPERITY AND SECURITY OF EUROPE.

THE CONCERNS WHICH I HAVE EXPRESSED TO YOU IN THIS LETTER, AS WELL AS THE CONSIDERATIONS I HAVE OUTLINED, ARE ALSO ACCOMPANIED BY MY HOPE THAT THE CURRENT DIFFICULTIES MAY BE OVERCOME AND THAT, WITH A JOINT EFFORT, WE MAY ACHIEVE THE SHARED OBJECTIVE OF THE ENLARGEMENT AND REACTIVATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.

WHAT IS AT STAKE IS THE COMMUNITY'S CAPACITY TO DEMONSTRATE ITS VITALITY, BY INTEGRATING THOSE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WHICH, LIKE SPAIN, WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE. I AM SURE THAT THE COMMUNITY, OVERCOMING ATTITUDES DICTATED BY CONSIDERATIONS OF LESSER IMPORTANCE, WILL KNOW HOW TO MEET THIS HISTORIC CHALLENGE.

I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY, PRIME MINISTER, TO ASSURE YOU ONCE AGAIN OF MY HIGHEST ESTEEM.

FELIPE GONZALEZ MARQUEZ."

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GORDON LENNOX

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