

O 211715Z DEC 82

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FM GIBRALTAR

TO RBDWDF/FCO LONDON

RBDWDF/MADRID

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L UK COMMS ONLY

SIC

CYPHER CAT ALFA

DESKBY 212000Z DEC 82

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FROM GIBRALTAR 211715Z DEC 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO TEL NO PERSONAL 173 OF 21 DEC 82

IMMEDIATE MADRID

MADRID TELNO 695 AND MY TELNO P 172: GIBRALTAR FRONTIER

1. SMALL, CAREFULLY CHOSEN GROUPS OF THREE SERVICES AND PSA WITH DEPENDANTS CROSSED BORDER THIS AFTERNOON BEARING, IN ADDITION TO PASSPORT, A DOCUMENT SHOWING ENGLISH AND SPANISH VERSION OF TEXT IN MY TELNO P172. LOCAL CLEARANCE HAD BEEN OBTAINED IN ADVANCE

2. CROSSINGS APPEARED TO GO SMOOTHLY EXCEPT THAT SPANIARDS INSISTED THAT DESCRIPTION 'DEPENDANT' MUST BE EXPANDED TO SHOW RELATIONSHIP, IE 'WIFE OF, CHILD OF'. WE ARE RELUCTANT TO ACCEPT THIS FORMULA AS IT BEGINS TO OPEN THE WAY TO A SITUATION IN WHICH THE SPANIARDS LOCALLY COULD CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR CHANGES IN THE DOCUMENT SO THAT IT FINISHES UP BEING ONE MADE AT THEIR DICTATION, NOTWITHSTANDING THE FACT THAT IT IS RELATED TO BRITISH PASSPORT AND SIGNED BY A RESPONSIBLE OFFICER. MOREOVER, ON AT LEAST ONE OCCASION A SPANISH OFFICIAL INSISTED THAT PASS WAS ONLY VALID FOR DATE OF ISSUE. WE WOULD INTEND TO RESIST THIS BOTH ON GROUNDS OF ADMINISTRATIVE DIFFICULTY AND AS AN ADDITIONAL IMPOSITION NOT BY CENTRE.

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3. I CONSIDER THAT AS THERE HAS BEEN NO CENTRAL OBJECTION TO THE FORMULA PROPOSED IN MY TUR, AND THAT WE SHOULD NOT GET INTO A POSITION IN WHICH LOCAL WHIM CARRIES THE DAY, WE SHOULD CARRY ON WITH THE EXISTING TEXT AND PLACE ON SPANIARDS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY DENIAL OF ACCESS. IN ORDER TO ALLOW TIME FOR THIS TO BE UNDERSTOOD I SHALL HOLD BACK GIVING A GREEN LIGHT TO PERSONNEL CONCERNED UNTIL NOON TOMORROW LOCAL.

WILLIAMS

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