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OO MADRID

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FM FCO 141255Z FEB 83

TO IMMEDIATE MADRID

TELEGRAM NUMBER 43 OF 14 FEBRUARY

AND TO IMMEDIATE GOVERNOR, GIBRALTAR (PERSONAL)

INFO ROUTINE LISBON

GIBRALTAR: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LISBON AGREEMENT

1. MINISTERS HAVE AGREED THAT YOU SHOULD NOW DISCUSS ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE LISBON AGREEMENT IN THE SPRING AS THE FOLLOW-UP TO MY MEETING WITH MORAN ON 10 DECEMBER.
2. IN DOING SO YOU SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT OUR OBJECTIVES ARE AS FOLLOWS:
 - (I) TO SECURE THE LIFTING OF ALL RESTRICTIONS ON THE BORDER:
 - (II) TO ENCOURAGE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MORE NORMAL RELATIONS BETWEEN GIBRALTAR AND SPAIN IN ORDER TO ASSIST THE GIBRALTAR ECONOMY AND DISSIPATE THE PRESENT SIEGE MENTALITY:
 - (III) TO ENSURE THAT THE SPANIARDS UNDERSTAND THAT WE SHALL MAINTAIN OUR COMMITMENT TO HONOUR THE WISHES OF THE GIBRALTARIANS:
 - (IV) TO PERSUADE THE SPANIARDS THAT:
 - (A) THEIR APPROACH TO THE GIBRALTAR QUESTION SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON BEHAVING WELL TOWARDS THE GIBRALTARIANS, AND:
 - (B) ANY IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS WILL TAKE A LONG TIME AND WILL BE FRUSTRATED IF THE PACE IS FORCED.
 - (V) TO OBTAIN AN OUTCOME FROM THE MINISTERIAL MEETING WHICH WILL FURTHER THESE AIMS AND AVOID TRIGGERING PUBLIC REACTIONS IN THE UK, SPAIN OR GIBRALTAR WHICH WOULD JEOPARDISE THEM.
3. YOU SHOULD START YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SPANIARDS BY GIVING MORAN THE MESSAGE IN MIFT.
4. IN HANDING OVER THE MESSAGE YOU HAVE DISCRETION TO TELL MORAN THAT, WHEN WE MEET, I REALISE THAT HE WILL WISH TO GIVE HIS VIEWS ON THE FUTURE OF GIBRALTAR, AS HE IS FREE TO DO UNDER THE TERMS OF THE LISBON AGREEMENT. I SHALL TAKE NOTE. I SHALL ALSO REAFFIRM HMG'S COMMITMENT TO HONOUR THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF GIBRALTAR AND EXPLAIN THE KEY ROLE OF GIBRALTAR OPINION. IT IS ONLY REAL-

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ISTIC TO EXPECT THAT, IF THERE IS TO BE A CHANGE IN PRESENT GIBALTARIAN VIEWS, THIS CAN ONLY COME OVER TIME AND IN THE LIGHT OF EXPERIENCE. IT IS UP TO THE SPANIARDS TO WORK TO IMPROVE THE GIBALTARIAN ATTITUDE TOWARDS SPAIN. GIBALTAR LEADERS WILL BE PRESENT AS MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH DELEGATION AND WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PUT THEIR OWN VIEWS. AT THE MEETING I SHALL SUGGEST THAT, IN DECIDING ON A WAY FORWARD, WE SHOULD EMPHASISE PRACTICAL CO-OPERATION SUCH AS WILL REDUCE THE BARRIERS OF MISTRUST BETWEEN SPAIN AND GIBALTAR WHICH HAVE GROWN UP OVER THE YEARS OF RESTRICTIONS. SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION MIGHT INCLUDE CROSS-BORDER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND COMMUNICATIONS.

5. I RECOGNISE THAT THE SPANIARDS WILL NEED TO SHOW THAT WE HAVE EMBARKED ON A CONTINUING PROCESS. BUT YOU SHOULD SEEK TO PERSUADE THEM THAT A FIXED TIMETABLE FOR FURTHER MEETINGS, WITH ARTIFICIAL DEADLINES AND WITH THE PRESS DEMANDING PROGRESS REPORTS, WOULD BE BAD FOR BOTH SIDES. WE SHOULD AIM TO WORK OUT A SYSTEM OF MEETINGS BETWEEN OFFICIALS (INCLUDING OFFICIALS FROM GIBALTAR) TO DEAL WITH PRACTICAL ISSUES OF MUTUAL BENEFIT. WHEN POLITICAL MATTERS ARE DISCUSSED, MEETINGS SHOULD BE AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL AND GIBALTAR LEADERS MUST BE PRESENT.

6. PLEASE SOUND OUT SPANISH VIEWS ABOUT A COMMUNIQUE. I WOULD PREFER IT TO BE AS SHORT AND AS FACTUAL AS POSSIBLE. ANY SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO THE WAY FORWARD MAY HAVE TO BE DECIDED AT THE MEETING ITSELF. YOU SHOULD SAY THAT I BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT THAT MORAN AND I SHOULD AGREE AT THE MEETING ON HOW BEST BOTH SIDES SHOULD HANDLE THE PRESS. WE SHALL PREPARE THE DRAFT OF A COMMUNIQUE IN THE LIGHT OF MORAN'S REACTIONS TO YOUR APPROACH.

7. THE SPANIARDS, AS IN THE PAST, MAY TRY TO EXTRACT FROM US ADVANCE ASSURANCES ABOUT CONCESSIONS ON THE STATUS OF GIBALTAR. ANY SUCH ATTEMPT MUST BE RESISTED. ALL WE CAN GIVE THEM IS THE OPPORTUNITY TO SAY IN PUBLIC THAT THEY HAVE MADE THEIR VIEWS ON THIS TOPIC KNOWN TO US. IT WILL BE BETTER NOT TO START AT ALL THAN TO RISK MISUNDERSTANDING ON THIS VITAL POINT.

8. PLACE AND DATES. SUBJECT TO PORTUGUESE AGREEMENT WE CAN AGREE THAT THE FIRST MEETING SHOULD BE AT SINTRA AND, AS PREVIOUSLY PLANNED, SPREAD OVER TWO HALF DAYS. WE EXPECT THE

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RESTRICTIONS ON GIBRALTAR TO BE LIFTED WHEN THE TALKS BEGIN. I WOULD PREFER TO GO FOR A DATE IN MARCH. YOU SHOULD SUGGEST 10-11 (PREFERABLY) OR 11-12 MARCH WHICH ARE AT PRESENT THE ONLY POSSIBLE DATES THAT MONTH. APART FROM THESE DATES I SHALL NOT BE AVAILABLE AGAIN UNTIL AFTER EASTER.

9. FOR GOVERNOR, GIBRALTAR. PLEASE BRIEF HASSAN AND ISOLA IN GENERAL TERMS, AND IN CONFIDENCE, ABOUT THE INSTRUCTIONS ABOVE. YOU SHOULD CONFIRM THAT I HOPE THEY WILL BOTH BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING (WITH PITALUGA AND CANEPA IN ATTENDANCE IF HASSAN WISHES). YOU SHOULD ALSO SAY THAT, WHEN A DATE FOR THE MEETING IS CONFIRMED, I HOPE THEY WILL ARRANGE TO COME TO LONDON FOR A DISCUSSION WITH OFFICIALS AND MINISTERS TO ASSIST IN OUR DETAILED PREPARATORY WORK. THIS WOULD BE IN ADDITION TO A FULL BRIEFING SESSION WITH ME ON THE DAY OF THE MEETING.

PYM

PL

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