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**Se refiere a:**

**01JUN82 1129Z – UKE Madrid a FCO.** Encuentro con el Canciller español (Gibraltar).

(PREM 19/770) (desclasificado diciembre 2012)

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FM MADRID 011129Z JUNE 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 311 OF 1 JUNE

INFO IMMEDIATE GOVERNOR GIBRALTAR (PERSONAL) MOD

MY TELNO 308: ANGLO SPANISH RELATIONS AND GIBRALTAR

WHEN SEEING THE SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER LAST NIGHT YET AGAIN ABOUT COOPERATION IN DENYING ARMS TO ARGENTINA, I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO TELL HIM ABOUT OUR LETTER TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, SUBSEQUENTLY DELIVERED IN NEW YORK.

*Passage deleted and closed, 40 years, under  
FOI Exemption. O'Wayland, 11 October 2012*

HE HAD LITTLE CONFIDENCE EVEN NOW IN THE POSSIBILITY OF NEGOTIATION WITH THE ARGENTINE JUNTA (SEE PARA 4 OF MY TELNO 309). BUT THIS WAS NOT OF COURSE THE OFFICIAL PUBLIC VIEW OF THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT. IN SPEAKING ON SPANISH RADIO THAT DAY ABOUT ENTRY INTO NATO, HE HAD FELT IT RIGHT TO EMPHASISE THAT ALLIANCE POLICY WOULD BE STRENGTHENED THROUGH SPANISH CONNECTIONS WITH THE SPANISH SPEAKING WORLD. PEREZ-LLORCA ADDED THAT WE MUST NOT EXPECT TOO MUCH OF HIS PRIME MINISTER AT THE NATO SUMMIT ON JUNE 18, IF CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS OVER THE FALKLANDS STILL REQUIRED THEN A DEMONSTRATION OF ALLIANCE SOLIDARITY.

2. PEREZ-LLORCA ADDED THAT, IN SPITE OF THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT'S AMBIGUOUS POSITION, THEY WERE COMPLETELY SOLID WITH US IN DENYING ARMS TO ARGENTINA. CALVO SOTELO WAS WITH HIM ON THIS. I WOULD REALISE THAT SPAIN WAS A HOT BED FOR ARMS TRAFFIC WITH SOUTH AMERICA. WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO BRING ANY EVIDENCE ABOUT THIS TO HIS ATTENTION.

3. PEREZ-LLORCA SAID THAT THE PRIME MINISTER AND HE WERE NOT HAVING AN EASY TIME WITH THEIR OWN MILITARY PEOPLE AT THE MOMENT. THE NEW COMMANDER OF THE AIR FORCE WAS PARTICULARLY HAWKISH OVER BOTH THE FALKLANDS AND GIBRALTAR.

4. THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THAT HIS PRIME MINISTER HAD THAT DAY CONFIRMED TO HIM HIS WILLINGNESS THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LISBON AGREEMENT SHOULD GO AHEAD AS PLANNED ON JUNE 25. CALVO SOTELO WAS KEEN THAT THERE SHOULD BE A GOOD TALK AT FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL AT THE NATO SUMMIT NEXT WEEK ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR SINTRA. CALVO SOTELO WOULD ALSO NATURALLY EXPECT TO HAVE SOME CONVERSATION WITH THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER. HE HAD ASKED PEREZ-LLORCA TO TRY TO FIND OUT SOMETHING BEFORE THEN ABOUT BRITISH THINKING REGARDING THE HANDLING OF THE SINTRA MEETING. (THIS CONFIRMS ME IN THE VIEW (MY TELNO 305) THAT A MESSAGE FROM YOU TO PEREZ-LLORCA, EVEN IF ONLY OF A MOST GENERAL NATURE, WOULD HAVE A STEADYING EFFECT HERE.)

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/5.

Prime Minister

*Important. See paras. 6-7  
in particular, but you should  
read it all.*

A.J.C. 2/6.

MS.

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5. PEREZ-LLORCA ASKED ABOUT THE CURRENT MOOD OF THE CHIEF MINISTER OF GIBRALTAR. I SAID THAT THE GOVERNOR WAS EXERCISING HIS USUAL CALMING INFLUENCE (GIBRALTAR TELNO PERSONAL 69).

6. THE FOREIGN MINISTER SUBSEQUENTLY TELEPHONED ON REFLECTION TO WARN US ABOUT THE POSSIBLE DANGER OF ACTION AGAINST GIBRALTAR BY PRO-ARGENTINE ELEMENTS, NOW THAT THE FALKLANDS CRISIS WAS COMING TO A HEAD. HE THOUGHT WE SHOULD TAKE PRECAUTIONS THERE. THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT WERE ALSO DOING SO IN THE GIBRALTAR NEIGHBOURHOOD. WE ASKED WHETHER THIS ADVICE WAS BASED ON ANY PARTICULAR INFORMATION. PEREZ-LLORCA REPLIED IN THE NEGATIVE. WE ASSURED HIM THAT WE WERE IN FACT TAKING PRECAUTIONS, THOUGH WE GAVE NO DETAILS. MAUD SUBSEQUENTLY SPOKE TO THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR WHO CONFIRMED THAT THIS WAS INDEED THE CASE.

7. TODAY'S PRESS REPORTS PEREZ-LLORCA ON RADIO YESTERDAY AS REAFFIRMING HIS GOVERNMENT'S RENUNCIATION OF THE USE OF FORCE AGAINST GIBRALTAR, WHICH WAS NOT WORTH A SINGLE LIFE. HE ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY WAS TO RECOVER THE ROCK THROUGH THE CREATION OF COMMON INTERESTS AND THE BEGINNING OF A DYNAMIC PROCESS.

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