



JR

cc: FCO

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

**PRIME MINISTER'S** 28 November, 1983  
**PERSONAL MESSAGE**  
**SERIAL No.** T 197 / 83

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for your letter of 18 November. It is most helpful to have this clear and constructive expression of Spain's intentions and wishes as we prepare for the European Council at Athens next month.

I well understand the feelings that have prompted you to write. Britain supports Spain's accession and I welcome and share your determination that Spain should participate as a Member of the Community in its future development. The path to membership, as this country has reason to know, is a long and often frustrating one. But it is encouraging that the way is now open to begin serious negotiations with Spain on agricultural transitional arrangements, something for which we have long been pressing.

I therefore hope, like you, that your negotiations, and those of Portugal, will be completed in the coming year, so that Spain and Portugal may enter the Community on 1 January 1986. We shall continue to do all we can to make this possible.

The Athens Summit will, I believe, be of crucial importance to the future as well as the present Members of the European Community. Decisions need to be taken on the future financial requirements of the Community. These decisions will need to

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JSG

ensure that no Member State is asked to bear a financial burden disproportionate to its means, and that agricultural and other expenditure is brought under effective control. Then the Community will be able to put its long internal debate behind it, and will have laid a firm foundation for its future development.

A great deal remains to be done. There are still important issues to be resolved in the accession negotiations over - for example - transitional arrangements in the industrial field: and there is also the problem over measures in force between Spain and Gibraltar with which you and I are both familiar.

I hope we can stay closely in touch on these and on any other problems which may arise in the months ahead.

Yours sincerely

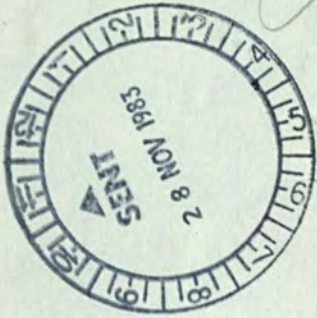
Raymond D. White

His Excellency Senor Don Felipe Gonzalez Marques

HERE, CORRECT NO

WITH DB

No 10



Sub  
28/11

DWF G 022/28

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EC(=)  
SED  
NEWS  
No/10.

PS  
PS/OR RIFKIND  
PS/LADY YOUNG  
PS/PUS  
SIR J BULLARD  
SIR C TICKELL  
MR HANWAY  
MR JENKINS.

OO FCO

RR GIBRALTAR

RR MADRID

RR UKREP BRUSSELS

IMMEDIATE

GRS 440

CONFIDENTIAL

ADVANCE COPY

FM NEW DELHI 280615Z NOV 83

TO IMMEDIATE FCO LONDON

TELEGRAM NUMBER 969 OF 28 NOVEMBER 1983

INFO ROUTINE GOVERNOR OF GIBRALTAR, MADRID, UKREP BRUSSELS.

FOLLOWING FROM PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

YOUR TELS NOS 908, 909 AND 910 OF 25 NOVEMBER : SPAIN AND THE EC : LETTER FROM THE SPANISH PRIME MINISTER.

2. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS APPROVED A REPLY TO THE SPANISH PRIME MINISTER AND AGREES THAT MR. RIFKIN SHOULD DELIVER THE TEXT WHEN HE VISITS MADRID ON 30 NOVEMBER:

3. THE TEXT OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER IS AS FOLLOWS:

DEAR PRIME MINISTER.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF 13 NOVEMBER. IT IS MOST HELPFUL TO HAVE THIS CLEAR AND CONSTRUCTIVE EXPRESSION OF SPAIN'S INTENTIONS AND WISHES AS WE PREPARE FOR THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AT ATHENS NEXT MONTH.

I WELL UNDERSTAND THE FEELINGS THAT HAVE PROMPTED YOU TO WRITE. BRITAIN SUPPORTS SPAIN'S ACCESSION AND I WELCOME AND SHARE YOUR DETERMINATION THAT SPAIN SHOULD PARTICIPATE AS A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY IN ITS FUTURE DEVELOPMENT. THE PATH TO MEMBERSHIP, AS THIS COUNTRY HAS REASON TO KNOW, IS A LONG AND OFTEN FRUSTRATING ONE. BUT IT IS ENCOURAGING THAT THE WAY IS NOW OPEN TO BEGIN SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS WITH SPAIN ON AGRICULTURAL TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS, SOMETHING FOR WHICH WE HAVE LONG BEEN PRESSING.

I THEREFORE HOPE, LIKE YOU, THAT YOUR NEGOTIATIONS, AND THOSE OF PORTUGAL, WILL BE COMPLETED IN THE COMING YEAR, SO THAT SPAIN AND PORTUGAL MAY ENTER THE COMMUNITY ON 1 JANUARY 1986. WE SHALL CONTINUE TO DO ALL WE CAN TO MAKE THIS POSSIBLE.

THE ATHENS SUMMIT WILL, I BELIEVE, BE OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE TO THE FUTURE AS WELL AS THE PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. DECISIONS NEED TO BE TAKEN ON THE FUTURE FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMMUNITY. THESE DECISIONS WILL NEED TO ENSURE THAT NO MEMBER STATE IS ASKED TO BEAR A FINANCIAL BURDEN DISPROPORTIONATE TO ITS MEANS, AND THAT AGRICULTURAL AND OTHER EXPENDITURE IS BOUGHT UNDER EFFECTIVE CONTROL. THEN THE COMMUNITY WILL BE ABLE TO PUT ITS LONG INTERNAL DEBATE BEHIND IT, AND WILL HAVE LAID A FIRM FOUNDATION FOR ITS FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

A GREAT DEAL REMAINS TO BE DONE. THERE ARE STILL IMPORTANT ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED IN THE ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS OVER - FOR EXAMPLE - TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS IN THE INDUSTRIAL FIELD: AND THERE IS ALSO THE PROBLEM OVER MEASURES IN FORCE BETWEEN SPAIN AND GIBRALTAR WITH WHICH YOU AND I ARE BOTH FAMILIAR.

I HOPE WE CAN STAY CLOSELY IN TOUCH ON THESE AND ON ANY OTHER PROBLEMS WHICH MAY ARISE IN THE MONTHS AHEAD.'

WADE-GERY

TEXT OF LETTER FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER OF SPAIN

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for your letter of 13 June.

As you know, we have consistently given our full support to the Spanish membership of the Community and pressed for early progress in the accession negotiations. I can assure you that we shall continue, though we have also made it clear that before accession can come about, the restrictions on Gibraltar will have to be lifted.

In particular, we want to see the long drawn-out internal negotiations on the Mediterranean agricultural regime brought quickly to a conclusion so that progress can be made on the agricultural aspects of the negotiations. I well understand how important this is for you, and I shall be pressing for this at Stuttgart.

Yours sincerely,

MARGARET THATCHER

PRIME MINISTER

LETTER TO THE SPANISH PRIME MINISTER

Just before you left London you received a letter from the Spanish Prime Minister about Spanish accession to the European Community. The text of his letter (which has been sent to all EC Heads of Government) is attached. It has been released to the press and we have been warned that the replies will also be published. The purpose of the Spanish letter is to flush out the French, whom they rightly see as the main obstacle to progress in negotiations.

Malcolm Rifkind is going to Madrid on 30 November for talks on Spanish accession. He believes that it would be a considerable advantage to take with him your reply.

The Foreign Secretary recommends that we should send a reply which will be regarded by Spain as "positive". Spanish irritation with the French is working to our advantage. We are, as a result, in the running to supply the Spanish Armed Forces with Rapier to the tune of £172 million (a contract which the French thought they had secured).

The only problem in sounding positive is Gibraltar. In the reply which it is proposed you should send, and which is attached, there is a very brief reference to Gibraltar. The advice is that there is no need to reiterate our position on Gibraltar in this letter because in a letter which you sent to Senor Gonzalez on 17 June you said that "we have also made it clear that before accession can come about the restrictions upon Gibraltar will have to be lifted". That is clearly still our position but it would not be wise to refer in the present letter to the earlier one because the earlier one has never been published in Spain and if we now force the Spaniards to publish it we could expect a strongly adverse public reaction which would undo all the good we hope to achieve with the present letter.

Grateful to know whether you agree that Malcolm Rifkind may deliver the attached letter on 30 November?

27 November 1983

A. J. C.

Yes

File No. \_\_\_\_\_

OUTWARD

Security Classification  
CONFIDENTIAL

Department \_\_\_\_\_

TELEGRAM

Precedence  
IMMEDIATE

Drafted by  
(Block Capitals) \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. Extn. \_\_\_\_\_

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(Time) \_\_\_\_\_ Z

PREAMBLE

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(Security Class.) \_\_\_\_\_ (Caveat/ Privacy Marking) \_\_\_\_\_

(Codeword) ROUTINE PERSONAL (Deskby) \_\_\_\_\_ Z

TO IMMEDIATE FCO Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
(precedence) (post)

AND TO (precedence/post) \_\_\_\_\_

AND SAVING TO \_\_\_\_\_

REPEATED TO (for info) GOVERNOR OF GIBRALTAR, MADRID, UKREP, BRUSSELS

SAVING TO (for info) \_\_\_\_\_

Distribution:-

[TEXT]

Following from Private Secretary to the Prime Minister. Your Tels Nos 908, 909 and 910 of 25 November: Spain and the EC: letter from the Spanish Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister has approved a reply to the Spanish Prime Minister and agrees that Mr. Rifkind should deliver the text when he visits Madrid on 30 November.

The text of the Prime Minister's letter is as follows:

"Thank you for your letter of 18 November. It is most helpful to have this clear and constructive expression

Copies to:-

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of Spain's intentions and wishes as we prepare for the European Council at Athens next month.

I well understand the feelings that have prompted you to write. Britain supports Spain's accession and I welcome and share your determination that Spain should participate as a Member of the Community in its future development. The path to membership, as this country has reason to know, is a long and often frustrating one. But it is encouraging that the way is now open to begin serious negotiations with Spain on agricultural transitional arrangements, something for which we have long been pressing.

I therefore hope, like you, that your negotiations, and those of Portugal, will be completed in the coming year, so that Spain and Portugal may enter the Community on 1 January 1986. We shall continue to do all we can to make this possible.

The Athens Summit will, I believe, be of crucial importance to the future as well as the present Members of the European Community. Decisions need to be taken on the future financial requirements of the Community. These decisions will need to ensure that no Member State is asked to bear a financial burden disproportionate to its means, and that agricultural and other expenditure is brought under effective control. Then the Community will be able to put its long internal debate behind it, and will have laid a firm foundation for its future development.

A great deal remains to be done. There are still important issues to be resolved in the accession negotiations over - for example - transitional arrangements in the industrial field; and there is also the problem over measures in force between Spain and Gibraltar with which you and I are both familiar.

I hope we can stay closely in touch on these and on any other problems which may arise in the months ahead."

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN



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RECEIVED  
BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION  
NEW DELHI  
CHANCERY HOUSE  
26 NOV 1983  
DUPLICATE

IMMEDIATE

FDW G 0233/25

CONFIDENTIAL

OO NEW DELHI

GRS 520

CONFIDENTIAL

FM FCO 251616Z NOV 83

TO IMMEDIATE NEW DELHI

TEL NO 908 OF 25 NOVEMBER

SPAIN AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY: LETTER FROM THE SPANISH PRIME MINISTER

FOLLOWING FOR PRIVATE SECRETARY TO PRIME MINISTER FROM PRIVATE SECRETARY

1. MR RIFKIND WILL BE GOING TO MADRID ON 30 NOVEMBER FOR TALKS ON SPANISH ACCESSION. HE BELIEVES, AS DOES HMA MADRID, THAT THERE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE ADVANTAGE WERE HE ABLE TO TAKE WITH HIM THE TEXT OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S REPLY TO SR GONZALEZ WHICH YOU REQUESTED IN YOUR LETTER OF 18 NOVEMBER: DRAFT IS IN MIFT.
2. SR GONZALEZ HAS WRITTEN IN IDENTICAL TERMS TO ALL EC HEADS OF GOVERNMENT, FOLLOWING THE SIMILAR EXERCISE BY DR SOARES. THE TEXT HAS BEEN RELEASED TO THE PRESS AND WE HAVE BEEN WARNED THAT THE REPLIES WILL ALSO BE PUBLISHED. THE LETTER IS DESIGNED IN PARTICULAR TO FLUSH OUT THE FRENCH WHOM THE SPANIARDS RIGHTLY SEE AS THE MAIN OBSTACLE TO PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATIONS.
3. IT IS IN OUR INTERESTS TO SEND A REPLY WHICH WILL BE SEEN AS POSITIVE. SPANISH IRRITATION WITH THE FRENCH IS WORKING TO OUR ADVANTAGE. WE ARE AS A RESULT IN THE RUNNING TO SUPPLY THE SPANISH ARMED FORCES WITH GROUND TO AIR MISSILES (RAPIER, TO A VALUE OF PDS STG 171.5M), A CONTRACT WHICH THE FRENCH BELIEVED THEY HAD SEWN UP, AND NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS ARE AT A CRITICAL STAGE. THE CONTACTS INITIATED ON ISSUES RELATING TO GIBRALTAR AFTER THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY MET MORAN IN SEPTEMBER HAVE JUST BEGUN, AND THE ATMOSPHERE IS GOOD.
4. AS REGARDS THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS, WE NEED HAVE LITTLE DIFFICULTY IN SOUNDING AS POSITIVE AS THE SPANIARDS COULD WISH. THE ONLY PROBLEM ARISES OVER GIBRALTAR. WHEN THE PRIME MINISTER LAST WROTE TO SR GONZALEZ ON 17 JUNE, IN REPLY TO A LETTER HE SENT HER ON 13 JUNE IN ADVANCE OF THE STUTTGART SUMMIT, SR MORAN'S DISASTROUS VISIT WAS ONLY JUST BEHIND US AND THE REFERENCE TO GIBRALTAR WAS A FAIRLY SHARP ONE:  
'AS YOU KNOW, WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY GIVEN OUR FULL SUPPORT TO SPANISH MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMUNITY AND PRESSED FOR EARLY PROGRESS IN THE ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS. I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT WE SHALL CONTINUE TO DO SO, THOUGH WE HAVE ALSO MADE IT CLEAR THAT BEFORE ACCESSION CAN COME ABOUT THE RESTRICTIONS ON GIBRALTAR WILL HAVE TO BE LIFTED'. HER REPLY TO SR GONZALEZ'S LATEST LETTER WILL HAVE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT PROBABLE PUBLICATION IN BALANCING TWO CONFLICTING REQUIREMENTS:  
- TO GIVE THE SPANIARDS NO SCOPE FOR INFERRING THAT THE SUBSTANCE OF OUR POSITION HAS CHANGED:  
- TO REFLECT AND PROMOTE THE IMPROVEMENT IN THE ATMOSPHERE OF ANGLO-SPANISH EXCHANGES ON THIS SUBJECT.
5. THE DRAFT REPLY IN MIFT THEREFORE REFERS BACK TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S EARLIER LETTER OBLIQUELY AND WITHOUT REPEATING ALL OF ITS LANGUAGE. DIRECT REFERENCE TO THE EARLIER LETTER HAS BEEN AVOIDED: THE SPANIARDS DID NOT RELEASE IT AT THE TIME, AND IF WE NOW FORCED THEM TO DO SO (EVEN AS BACKGROUND) WE COULD EXPECT A STRONGLY ADVERSE PUBLIC REACTION WHICH COULD NEGATE THE POSITIVE EFFECT OF THE PRESENT REPLY.
6. IF THE PRIME MINISTER AGREES, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE THE TEXT OF HER REPLY BY 1400Z ON 28 NOVEMBER.
7. MADRID TELNO 631, GIVING THE TEXT OF THE GONZALEZ LETTER, IS BEING REPEATED TO YOU.

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26 NOV 1983

TOP COPY ONLY

**IMMEDIATE**  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

OF LETTER  
OF ENCLOSURES  
LOCATION

OO NEW DELHI  
GRS 397  
CONFIDENTIAL

FM FCO 251620T NOV 83

TO IMMEDIATE NEW DELHI

TELEGRAM NUMBER 909 OF 25 NOVEMBER

INFO ROUTINE PERSONAL GOVERNOR GIBRALTAR, MADRID, UKREP BRUSSELS.  
FOLLOWING FOR PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

SPAIN AND THE EC: LETTER FROM THE SPANISH PRIME MINISTER.

1. MIPT: FOLLOWING IS DRAFT REPLY:

2. 'THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF 18 NOVEMBER. IT IS MOST HELPFUL FOR MY COLLEAGUES AND I TO HAVE THIS CLEAR AND CONSTRUCTIVE EXPRESSION OF SPAIN'S INTENTIONS AND WISHES AS WE PREPARE FOR THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AT ATHENS NEXT MONTH.

I WELL UNDERSTAND THE FEELINGS THAT HAVE PROMPTED YOU TO WRITE. BRITAIN SUPPORTS SPAIN'S ACCESSION AND I WELCOME AND SHARE YOUR DETERMINATION THAT SPAIN SHOULD PARTICIPATE AS A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY IN ITS FUTURE DEVELOPMENT. THE PATH TO MEMBERSHIP, AS THIS COUNTRY HAS REASON TO KNOW, IS A LONG AND OFTEN FRUSTRATING ONE. ~~BUT, I HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED BY THE FACT THAT THE WAY IS NOW OPEN TO BEGIN SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS WITH SPAIN ON AGRICULTURAL TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, SOMETHING FOR WHICH WE HAVE LONG BEEN PRESSING.~~

IT IS ENCOURAGING

I THEREFORE HOPE, LIKE YOU, THAT YOUR NEGOTIATIONS, AND THOSE OF PORTUGAL, WILL BE COMPLETED IN THE COMING YEAR, OPENING THE WAY TO THE FULFILMENT OF YOUR OBJECTIVE AND PORTUGAL'S THAT YOUR COUNTRIES SHOULD ENTER THE COMMUNITY ON 1 JANUARY 1986. WE SHALL CONTINUE TO DO ALL WE CAN TO HELP MAKE THIS POSSIBLE.

THE ATHENS SUMMIT WILL, I BELIEVE, BE OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE TO THE FUTURE AS WELL AS THE PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. DECISIONS NEED TO BE TAKEN ON THE FUTURE FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMMUNITY. THESE DECISIONS WILL NEED TO ENSURE THAT NO MEMBER STATE IS ASKED TO BEAR A FINANCIAL BURDEN DISPROPORTIONATE TO ITS MEANS, AND THAT AGRICULTURAL AND OTHER EXPENDITURE IS BROUGHT UNDER EFFECTIVE CONTROL. THEN THE COMMUNITY WILL BE ABLE TO PUT ITS LONG INTERNAL DEBATE BEHIND IT, AND WILL HAVE LAID A FIRM FOUNDATION FOR ITS FUTURE DEVELOPMENT. ~~TO WHICH I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING SPAIN AND PORTUGAL MAKE THEIR FULL CONTRIBUTION.~~

~~THERE REMAINS, OF COURSE, A GREAT DEAL TO BE DONE. THERE ARE STILL IMPORTANT ISSUES STILL REMAIN TO BE RESOLVED IN THE ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS OVER - FOR EXAMPLE - TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS IN THE INDUSTRIAL FIELD: AND THERE REMAINS TOO THE PROBLEM OVER MEASURES IN FORCE BETWEEN SPAIN AND GIBRALTAR WITH WHICH YOU AND I ARE BOTH FAMILIAR.~~

I HOPE WE CAN STAY CLOSELY IN TOUCH ON THESE AND ON ANY OTHER PROBLEMS WHICH MAY ARISE IN THE MONTHS AHEAD.'

HOWE

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