PRIME MINISTER'S Euro-bl: Gragament SERIAL No. TITTAN 84 SERIAL No. TITTAN 81

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RESTRICTED FRAME EXTERNAL

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INFO ROUTINE DUBLIN, BONN, LISBON INFO SAVING OTHER EC POSTS

YOUR TELNOS 509 AND 510: SPAIN/EC: MESSAGE FROM SPANISH PRIME MINISTER

1. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS APPROVED THE FOLLOWING REPLY TO SENOR GONZALEZ'S MESSAGE:

BEGINS ' DEAR PRIME MINISTER, THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF 16 OCTOBER.

AS YOU KNOW, BRITAIN'S SUPPORT FOR THE ACCESSION OF SPAIN AND PORTUGAL TO THE COMMUNITY HAS BEEN STRONG AND STEADFAST. I SHARE

YOUR CONCERN AT THE SLOW PROGRESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS, AND YOUR FIRM COMMITMENT TO SEEING THEM BROUGHT

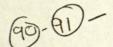
TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION IN TIME FOR SPAIN AND PORTUGAL TO ENTER THE COMMUNITY ON 1 JANUARY 1986.

SOME OF THE ISSUES OUTSTANDING ARE DIFFICULT AND POLITICALLY SENSITIVE FOR MEMBER STATES, AS SOME OF THEM ARE FOR SPAIN, BUT I AM CONVINCED THAT WITH SUFFICIENT DETERMINATION ON ALL SIDES SOLUTIONS CAN AND MUST BE FOUND QUICKLY. AS GEOFFREY HOWE WILL BE MAKING CLEAR TO THE IRISH PRESIDENCY IN HIS CONTACTS WITH THEM THIS WEEK, WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE A MAJOR STEP FORWARD AT NEXT WEEK'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS COUNCIL IN LUXEMBOURG, AND WE WILL BE READY TO MAKE OUR FULL CONTRIBUTION TO THIS.

MEANWHILE, I HAVE BEEN GLAD, AS YOU WILL HAVE BEEN, TO HEAR OF THE PROGRESS BEING MADE IN THE CONTACTS BETWEEN GEOFFREY HOWE AND FERNANDO MORAN OVER GIBRALTAR.

WITH BEST WISHES

RESTRICTED FRAME EXTERNAL



MARGARET THATCHER ENDS.

2. PLEASE DELIVER THIS REPLY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE.

HOWE -

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ECD(E)
SED

MR DEREK THOMAS