

RESTRICTED

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Date : 31 October 1996
(Fecha:)

To: W Marsden CMG, AUS, FCO

Fax:

From: Leycester Coltman

REMARKS: This Transmission Consists of 1 pages, including this.
(Nota: Esta envío consta de __ páginas incluyendo la presente)

Dear William

BP: COLOMBIA

1. Since sending my telno 308 I have seen the PS/PUS minute to you of 30 October.

2.

3.

[REDACTED]

5. There are in fact good reasons for BP's attitude, both in 1991 and now. But the Colombian in the street thinks that a contract is a contract [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Some responsible Colombian journalists have told us that the damage to BP's reputation from this affair is even beginning to effect negatively the otherwise very positive image of Britain and HMG.

6. We need not be too gloomy about the situation. President Samper, with his usual resourcesfulness, seems to have found a way out. The contract will be maintained, allowing the critics of revision to feel that BP have at last been put in their place, while separate subsidiary agreements will give BP the benefits which they need to continue with their investment programme.

Youn Ew

Leycester

Leycester Coltman