

ritories, say Gibraltar and two others. In the short term it will be easier to persuade Parliament that the Overseas Territories should be represented in an elected House of Lords. But this is for the future. Mike thinks that the case for integration has been eclipsed by the proposed modernised constitution. He is content that the Gibraltar Government welcomes recreational visits by nuclear submarines and hopes that as a matter of routine any submarines needing repairs return to the United Kingdom. However he hopes that in a dire emergency that the Gibraltarians would provide succour to a damaged nuclear submarine whatever the views of the Spanish Government.

His thoughts on the decision of the Advocate General at the European Court of Justice to recommend that Commonwealth citizens resident on the Rock should not vote in European Parliamentary elections are unprintable. But if it agreed by the Court then it will only be a matter of time before a disenfranchised Commonwealth citizen takes action in the Court of Human Rights.

Penning complimented the Chief Minister on his ability to always speak to the right people, in the right location at the right time. "I have the greatest admiration for Peter in the way he has stood up for and defended the rights of the Gibraltarians. He has done an incredible job".

Mike ended by saying how happy he is that for once Gibraltar's political future is looking rosy and how much he was looking forward to flying down for National Day.