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PART 13.

CONFIDENTIAL FILING.

COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT
MEETING IN VANCOUVER 1987.

COMMONWEALTH.

Part 1: MARCH 1979

Pr 13: Oct. 1987.

Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date
3-11-87.							
9-11-87							
9-12-87							
PREM 19/2048							



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

9 December 1987

Prime Minister

CDP

9/12

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Dear Charles,

CHOGM: Chief Buthelezi's Thanks

Robin Renwick has been asked by Sir Laurens van der Post to convey to the Prime Minister Chief Buthelezi's appreciation of the stand she took in Vancouver. I enclose a copy of an extract from a letter which Chief Buthelezi recently wrote to Sir Laurens in which he asked that the message be passed to the Prime Minister.

Yours ever,

(L Parker)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

It is on behalf of the millions of Black South Africans who believe with me in decency that I ask you, Sir, for a personal favour. I would be most grateful if you could convey to Mrs. Margaret Thatcher our very deep appreciation for the tough stand she took in Canada at the recent Commonwealth meeting. We saw in her that steely commitment and that tough-minded morality which we so badly need in this country. Of her I believe it could truly be said that she is astute enough to talk to the devil himself if necessary, but moral enough never to deal with him. She has shown the West the kind of leadership which is so sorely needed in today's international climate.

Please convey to her, Sir Laurens, our view that Britain remains one of the world's greatest diplomatic powers and probably the world's most honest broker. It shames us as Black South Africans to hear that she is being called a racist because of her stand on principle for the sake of the poorest of the poor in this country. She took her stand knowing that it would involve her in ongoing tough consequences in her own dealings with Commonwealth countries. She knew also that it would complicate her dealings with Non-aligned countries but she did not flinch in the face of these problems. We appreciate that very much.

I have brought with me a copy of a memorandum I addressed to all Commonwealth and Non-aligned Foreign Ministers last month. I appreciate very much the fact that Sir Geoffrey Howe wrote to me thanking me for my in-put. I would like you, Sir, to have a copy of this memorandum. I would greatly appreciate any comment you would wish to make and I sincerely hope that after reading it, you would find merit enough in it to discuss it with others. Somehow the West must become more tangibly involved in that which can work in this country. Somehow it must do more to bolster the forces of democracy. Naive decency has in the past so often played into the hands of the opponents of decency. The Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group came here with decent objectives and however flawed their approach was by their unrealistic expectations and their miscalculations of how difficult the South African situation really is, we must build on that attempt.

The CEPG mission was deficient to the extent that it did not realise that negotiation will itself have to be turned into a process in which the West participates. Negotiation is not something in our circumstances which takes place once people get around the conference table. Negotiations must make conference tables possible. Final national conferences must be about that

a PC



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

9 November 1987

CD 9/ki

Dear Charles,

Prime Minister's meeting with the President of the Maldives :
17 October 1987

PLAT PT 12

Thank you for your letter of 17 October recording the outcome of the Prime Minister's unscheduled meeting with President Gayoom.

Assistance with the improvement of fire-fighting services at the airport has already been requested and agreed. However the requests for help with airport security and construction of an extra fish cannery are new. The ODA has asked the High Commission in Colombo to obtain further details of what is required. Once these have been received, the requests will be investigated as quickly as possible in consultation with the Maldives authorities.

Yours ever,

L Parker

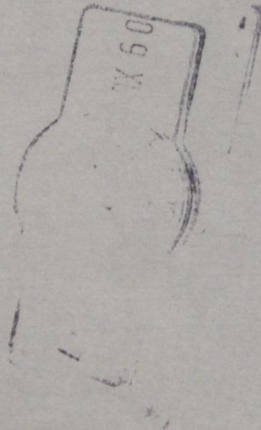
(L Parker)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
PS/No 10 Downing Street

COMMONWEALTH

CHOCOM

PT 13



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CONFIDENTIAL
FM HARARE
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELNO 507
OF 030731Z NOVEMBER 87
INFO PRIORITY PRETORIA, MAPUTO, LUSAKA

YOUR TELNO GUIDANCE 083 : CHOGM

1. PARA 16 OF TUR ASKED FOR A READ OUT OF COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENTS' ASSESSMENT OF THE OUTCOME OF CHOGM.

2. MUGABE'S INITIAL COMMENTS ON RETURN TO ZIMBABWE WERE RESTRAINED (MY TELNO 484), AND NOTHING HAS HAPPENED SINCE THEN TO MAKE ME ALTER MY JUDGMENT (MY TELNO 487) THAT THE PRAGMATIC AND REASONABLE ELEMENTS IN MUGABE'S CHARACTER REMAIN TO THE FORE. THERE IS NO TALK HERE (AS THERE CERTAINLY WAS IN 1985 AND AGAIN IN 1986) OF POSSIBLE ACTION AGAINST BRITISH INTERESTS. ON THE CONTRARY, THERE SEEMS TO BE A REALISTIC APPRECIATION OF THE POSITIVE MEASURES WE ARE TAKING (TRAINING THE MOZAMBICAN ARMY, FINANCING THE REHABILITATION OF THE LIMPOPO LINE ETC) AND NO DESIRE TO PUT THESE AT RISK.

3. LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE POST-CHOGM HAS BEEN GENERALCY MUTED , AND HAS INCLUDED FEATURE MATERIAL NOTABLY FROM ARNOLD RAPHAEL IN LONDON WHICH GAVE A BALANCED PRESENTATION OF THE UK POSITION. THE ONE EXCEPTION TO THIS GENERAL RULE WAS A CAREFULLY TARGETTED ZTV SPECIAL ON CHOGM WHICH FOCUSED EXCLUSIVELY ON WHAT WAS PRESENTED AS MRS THATCHER'S INTRANSIGENCE AND ISOLATION.

4. THE OVERALL ZIMBABWEAN RESPONSE CAN BEST BE EXPLAINED BY THE FACT THAT THEY GOT WHAT THEY WANTED - NO PUBLIC WEAKENING OF THE COMMONWEALTH (BRITAIN APART) POSITION ON SANCTIONS, NO EMBARRASSING PUBLIC EXPOSURE OF ZIMBABWE'S FAILURE TO IMPLEMENT ANY SANCTIONS OF ITS OWN NOR PRESSURE TO DO SO, AND A PRACTICAL PACKAGE OF ASSISTANCE TO THE FLS. MUGABE TRAVELLED TO VANCOUVER WITH MORE REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS THAN TO NASSAU AND MARLBOROUGH HOUSE (MY TELNO 451) AND THESE EXPECTATIONS WERE FULFILLED. FROM HIS POINT OF VIEW, IT WAS A SUCCESSFUL MEETING.

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PAGE 1
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PART 12 ends:-

FCO to CDP 08-10-87

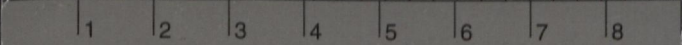
PART 13 begins:-

Harare Tel 507

Grey Scale #13



A 1 2 3 4 5 6 **M** 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 **B** 17 18 19



Colour Chart #13

Blue Cyan Green Yellow

