

SUBJECT

T10/80

JAN 15 23 36 '80

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T10/80
LFS 410

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ZCZC CLF248 LBL761 ELB6028 GXB657 LYU554 115 1000

QBXX CV LIMV 461

MONROVIA 461 15 1940 PART ONE PAGE 1/50

P.O. INTERNATIONAL
TELEGRAPHS LONDON
15 JAN 1980
EC3/SW1 AREA OFFICE
ST BOTOLPH
ENQUIRIES DIAL 1222
1222 Ext 2000

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE MARGARET THATCHER PRIME MINISTER
OF THE KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1

MADAM PRIME MINISTER COLON I AM IMPELLED TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOU
ONCE AGAIN REGARDING THE STATE OF AFFAIRS IN ZAMBABWE
(SOUTHERN RHODESIA) STOP YOU MAY RECALL THAT IN MY EARLIER

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MESSAGE TO YOU I HAD EXPRESSED GRAVE CONCERN ABOUT THE CONTINUED
PRESENCE OF SOUTH AFRICA FORCES IN ZIMBABWE STOP SINCE THEN
THE SITUATION IN ZIMBABWE HAS BEEN FURTHER COMPUDED AND
BECLAUDED BY THE DISTURBING AND ALARMING REPORTS OF THE MURDER
OF A UNMER OF TROOPS OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT BY THE RHODESIAN

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SECURITY FORCES STOP WHATEVER THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE
UNSETTLING DEVELOPMENTS IN ZIMBABWE CMA THEY HAVE AROUSED SERIOUS
CONCERNS ACROSS THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA CMA REVERBERATIONS OF WHICH
I AM CERTAIN HAVE REACHED YOU STOP YOU WILL RECALL THAT THE
QUESTION
OF THE ROLE OF RHODESIAN FORCES DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD

PAGE 4

IN ZIMBABWE AND THE PRESENCE OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS IN THE
TERRITORY WERE KEY ISSUES OF CONTENTION WHICH CAUSED A DEADLOCK
DURING NEGOTIATIONS ON THE CEASEFIRE ARRANGEMENTS STOP THIS
IMPASSE WAS BROKEN ONLY WHEN FIRM ASSURANCES WERE GIVEN BY YOUR
GOVERNMENT THAT RHODESIAN FORCES WOULD BE CONFINED TO BASES

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AND THAT SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS WOULD BE WITHDRAWN WITH THE
RESUMPTION OF BRITISH CONTROL OVER ZIMBABWE STOP WE ARE THEREFORE
GREATLY SURPRISED AND DISTURBED BY THE APPARENT CONTRADICTION IN
THE ACTIONS OF THE BRITISH GOVERNOR IN HASTILY DEPLOYING RHODESIAN
FORCES AND MAINTAINING THE PRESENCE OF SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES IN
ZIMBABWE

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MONROVIA 461 15 1940 PART TWO PAGE6

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE MARGARET THATCHER PRIME MINISTER
OF THE KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
10 DOWNING STREET
LONDONSW1

ESPECIALLY WHERE A CLEAR THREWT OF MILITARY INTERVENTION IN
ZIMBABWE HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE BY SOUTH AFRICAN STOP THE NATIONS
OF AFRICA CMA IN WHOLEHEARTEDLY SUPPORTING THE LANCASTER HOUSE
AGREEMENT CMA HAVE ALWAYS INSISTED ON THE FAIR AND EQUAL TREATMENT
OF ALL THE PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE ZIMBABWE PROBLEM STOP WE

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ARE THEREFORE CONCERNED THAT ANY SEMBLANCE OF PARTIALITY OR
BIAS FAVOURING ONE FACTION IN ZIMBABWE OR INDICATIONS THAT THE
PATRIOTIC FRONT HAS BEEN PLACED AT AN UNDUE DISADVANTAGE VIA A
VIS OTHER POLITICAL FACTIONS WOULD SERIOUSLY ERODE THE BASE OF
AFRICAN SUPPORT FOR THE PROCESS OF TRANSITION NOW UNDERWAY IN
ZIMBABWE

PAGE 8

AND RESULTS EMERGING THEREFROM STOP BECAUSE OF THESE CONCERNS
AND APPREHENSIONS CMA I AM TAKING THIS OPORTUNITY TO AGAIN URGE
YOU CMA MADAM PRIME MINISTER CMA TO DO ALL WITHIN YOUR POWER TO
?ENSURE THAT AGREEMENTS REACHED IN LONDON ARE IMPLEMFTED FAIRLY
AND IMPARTIALLY AND THAT ASSURANCES GIVEN ARE FULFILLED DURING
THIS DULICATE

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PERIOD OF TRANSITION IS BEING SUPERVISED BY YOUR GOVERNMENT
IN ORDER THAT THE GOODWILL AND ,OMENTUM FOR PEACE IN ZIMBABWE
THUS FAR GENERATED MAY NOT BE LOST STOP PLEASE ACCEPT CMA MADAM
PRIME MINISTER CMA THE RENEWED ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST
CONSIDERATION

AND ESTEEM SINCERELY

WR TOLBERT JR

PRESIDENT OF LIBERIA AND CURRENT CHAIRMAN OF
THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY +

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