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PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T90A/30

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA  
STATE HOUSE  
LAGOS, NIGERIA

Ref. No. 1882/S.70


21st April, 1980

Your Excellency,

ZIMBABWE INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS

I have just returned from a visit to Salisbury, Zimbabwe where I had the pleasure and privilege to participate in their independence celebrations. It was a particularly happy and moving occasion and a truly great privilege to see the new nation launched into the world community as a fully accepted member, with so much international goodwill. The realisation of this great victory must be largely attributed to the political will of your goodself and your government and your sincere determination to see to a just and peaceful solution to the long drawn-out conflict. I would like on behalf of myself, my government and the entire people of my country to congratulate you most warmly and most sincerely for bringing about this peaceful solution in that troubled land through actively ensuring the conduct of free and fair elections. We on our part would like to assure you of our continuing support for the young nation in whatever way we possibly can to ensure that their onerous task of reconciliation, resettlement and rehabilitation succeeds in an atmosphere of peace and mutual trust and confidence. We believe that a successful multiracial society in Zimbabwe would be a great symbol of hope for mankind not only in Africa but throughout the world.

Meanwhile I ask you to accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

Your Sincerely,  
  
(ALHAJI SHEHU SHAGARI)  
PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL  
REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA.

The Right Honourable  
Mrs. Margaret Thatcher,  
Prime Minister,  
United Kingdom.