

CONFIDENTIAL
PRIME MINISTER'S

COAST MASTER
Original:
Rhodesia P45
Edu
14/8

CONFIDENTIAL

PERSONAL MESSAGE

DESKBY 131500Z
FM FCO 131406Z AUG
TO IMMEDIATE ABIDJAN
TELEGRAM NUMBER C98 OF 13 AUGUST.

SERIAL No. T71/79T

RHODESIA
1. PLEASE TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE
PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY FIRST THING
TOMMOROW 14 AUGUST.

BEGINS:

DEAR MR PRESIDENT,
I KNOW THAT YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN IN FAVOUR OF A SOLUTION TO
THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM BASED ON NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN ALL THE PARTIES
CONCERNED, AND RICHARD LUCE TOLD ME OF YOUR GOVERNMENT'S THINKING
WHEN HE RETURNED FROM HIS VISIT TO WEST AFRICA LAST JUNE. I AM
SURE THAT YOU WILL SHARE MY VIEW THAT THE AGREEMENT REACHED AT THE
COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING IN LUSAKA PROVIDES A REAL
HOPE OF A SETTLEMENT BASED ON SUCH NEGOTIATIONS. IN ACCORDANCE
WITH THAT AGREEMENT, WE ARE NOW ISSUING INVITATIONS TO BISHOP
MUZOREWA AND THE LEADERS OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT TO ATTEND A
CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE IN LONDON IN EARLY SEPTEMBER. I AM UNDER
NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT THE DIFFICULTIES THAT LIE AHEAD, BUT WE SHALL
BE SPARING NO EFFORT TO RESOLVE THEM. WE SHALL NEED THE SUPPORT OF
OUR FRIENDS IN THIS TASK, AND I TRUST THAT I CAN COUNT ON YOURS.
YOURS SINCERELY

MARGARET THATCHER

ENDS.

2. YOU MAY DRAW ON FCO TELNOS 139-142 TO MIRIMBA SALISBURY IN
TALKING TO GOVERNMENTS TO WHICH YOU ARE ACCREDITED. YOU SHOULD
ALSO MAKE FULL USE OF GUIDANCE MATERIAL.

CARRINGTON

FILES
RHOD.D.
OADS
N AM D
NEWS D
PUSD
PLANNING STAFF
ES & SD
CCD
FRD
UND
LEGAL ADVS (MR. FREELAND)
(MR. FIFOOT)
ECON D
P & CD

DEF D
OID
PS
PS/SIR I GILMOUR
PS/MR. LUCE
PS/MR. RIDLEY
PS/MR. HURD
PS/PUS
SIR A DUFF
SIR A PARSONS
LORD N G LENNOX
MISS BROWN
MR. THOMAS
MR. WILLSON
MR. WILLIAMS

ADDITIONAL DISTN.
RHODESIA POLICY

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