

Subject file - Commonwealth -
Post of Sec Gen - May 79.

ODS
T 33A/79T



PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T 33A/79T
State House
Lusaka, Republic of Zambia

29th June, 1979.

My Dear Prime Minister,

In my capacity as Chairman of our forthcoming Meeting here in Lusaka, I have followed with interest the reaction of Commonwealth Governments to the Secretary-General's message of 23rd May concerning his second term of office. I am now writing to you on the basis of the views of a large number of my colleagues which have been conveyed to me.

Although some Governments have yet to indicate their thinking, I thought I should let you know that the overwhelming opinion of those who have responded so far, already constituting considerably more than a majority of our full membership, is strongly in favour of Mr. Shridath Ramphal continuing for a second term. In expressing this view, they have paid tribute to his distinguished services to the Commonwealth and stressed their belief that such a course of action would be in the best interests of the association.

Having regard to the overwhelming nature of the reactions which have reached me, and the importance which Governments attach to an early decision in the matter, it would be appropriate if I could convey to Mr. Ramphal very early during our Lusaka Meeting the collective wish of Commonwealth Governments. I hope therefore, that those of my colleagues who have not yet indicated their view will do so as early as possible.

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The Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
Prime Minister of Great Britain,
10, Downing Street,
LONDON, S.W.1.



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I am addressing a similar message to all
my colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

KD

Kenneth David Kaunda
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA