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FM MAPUTO 081215Z JANUARY 80

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 23 OF 08 JANUARY

AND TO IMMEDIATE SALISBURY

INFO PRIORITY LUSAKA WASHINGTON DAR ES SALAAM LAGOS

MY TELNO 39 TO SALISBURY (NOT TO ALL): RHODESIA: ZANU

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF MUGABE'S LETTER DATED TODAY:

DEAR MRS THATCHER,

IT HAS BECOME NECESSARY FOR ME TO CONVEY TO YOU, ON BEHALF OF MY PARTY, THE FOLLOWING EXTREMELY GRAVE OBSERVATIONS.

YOU WILL RECALL THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AGREED TO THE CEASEFIRE ARRANGEMENTS ONLY AFTER CERTAIN ASSURANCES HAD BEEN MADE BY LORD CARRINGTON. WE HAD REPEATEDLY BEEN ASSURED THAT:--

1. SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS WOULD BE WITHDRAWN FROM SOUTHERN RHODESIA AS SOON AS THE GOVERNOR HAD ARRIVED IN SALISBURY. NOW GOVERNOR SOAMES INFORMS US THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS ARE THERE WITH HIS CONSENT. WHY WERE WE TOLD LIES IN THE FIRST INSTANCE? YOU WILL RECALL THAT ON THE DAY OF THE SIGNING OF THE LANCASTER HOUSE AGREEMENT WE RAISED THIS MATTER WITH YOU AND YOU AND LORD CARRINGTON ASSURED US THAT THE MATTER WAS UNDER CONTROL AND THAT YOU VIEWED IT WITH THE SAME DEGREE OF SERIOUSNESS AS OURSELVES. WE CANNOT AT ALL ACCEPT THE PRESENCE OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS IN OUR COUNTRY AS IT IS NOT ONLY AN ACT OF AGRESSION BUT ALSO A VIOLATION OF OUR AGREEMENT.

2. THAT THE MAINTENANCE OF LAW AND ORDER DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD WOULD BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE POLICE. YOU HAVE NOW AUTHORISED YOUR GOVERNOR TO DEPLOY GENERAL WALLS' ARMED FORCES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY FOR OSTENSIBLY "LAW AND ORDER" PURPOSES. THIS IS A FRAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE LANCASTER HOUSE AGREEMENT AND AMOUNTS IN

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FACT TO A MISAPPLICATION OF POWERS VESTED IN HIM. THE EFFECT OF DEPLOYING RHODESIAN TROOPS IS TO PLACE OUR OWN TROOPS IN A POSITION WHERE THEY ALONE ARE ASSEMBLED AND STATIONARY AND THUS FACED WITH THE THREAT OF ENCIRCLEMENT BY RHODESIAN TROOPS. WE CANNOT ALLOW OUR TROOPS TO BE PLACED IN THAT DANGER. IN ANY CASE, WHY SHOULD THE GOVERNOR CHOOSE TO RELY ON THE RHODESIAN TROOPS AND NOT ON OUR OWN?

3. A CRUCIAL ELEMENT IN THE CEASEFIRE SCHEME WAS AND REMAINS THE DISENGAGEMENT FORMULA. IT WAS AGREED AT LANCASTER THAT THE RHODESIAN FORCES WOULD DISENGAGE FIRST BY WITHDRAWING TO THEIR BASES. IT WAS EXPLAINED TO US THAT SELOUS SCOUTS AND THE VARIOUS COMPONENTS OF THE AUXILIARY FORCES WOULD BE EXPECTED TO GATHER AND REMAIN AT THEIR BASES. THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO EVIDENCE THAT THE AUXILIARY FORCES OF BISHOP MUZOREWA HAVE DISENGAGED AND ARE ASSEMBLED AT ANY BASE. WHO, IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, IS BREACHING THE CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT? IT IS CLEAR THAT LORD SOAMES IS ALLOWING THE AUXILIARY FORCES TO REMAIN DEPLOYED AND DEPLOYING THE RHODESIAN FORCES IN ORDER DELIBERATELY TO UPSET THE BALANCE OF THE FORCES IN THEIR FAVOUR. WE HAVE EVIDENCE THAT ATTEMPTS AT OCCUPYING AREAS FROM WHICH OUR FORCES HAVE MOVED ARE BEING MADE IN A DEFINITE STRATEGIC PATTERN. YOU WILL RECALL THAT WE STATED PUBLICLY IN LONDON THAT WE ARE UNWILLING TO SURRENDER ANY OF OUR LIBERATED ZONES NOR ABANDON OUR BASES AND COMBAT POSITIONS IN THE CONTESTED AREAS UNLESS THE RHODESIAN FORCES PLUS THE AUXILIARY FORCES WERE PROPERLY TO DISENGAGE AND BE POSITIONED IN THEIR BARRACKS. THIS IS NOT WHAT HAS HAPPENED.

IN THE LIGHT OF THE ABOVE OBSERVATIONS, I FEEL COMPELLED TO DEMAND FROM YOU AND OTHER PARTIES CONCERNED THAT THESE VIOLATIONS OF THE LANCASTER HOUSE AGREEMENT MUST CEASE IMMEDIATELY. IF THEY CONTINUE, I SHALL REGARD MY SIDE AND ITS FORCES AS EQUALLY FREE TO DISHONOUR, IN A SIMILAR WAY, THE CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT. WE SHALL, HOWEVER, REFRAIN FROM TAKING HASTY ACTION ON THIS MATTER.

LET ME EMPHASIZE THAT IT IS FRAUDULENT OF THE LANCASTER HOUSE AGREEMENT FOR THE GOVERNOR TO USE RHODESIAN TROOPS FOR PURPOSES OF MAINTAINING LAW AND ORDER. IT IS MORE FRAUDULENT STILL FOR THE GOVERNOR TO USE THE PRETEXT OF MAINTAINING LAW AND ORDER IN ORDER TO GIVE A TACTICAL ADVANTAGE TO THE RHODESIAN FORCES

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OVER THE PATRIOTIC FRONT FORCES. IT IS EQUALLY FRAUDULENT AND DECEITFUL FOR THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO ACCEPT AND GIVE THEIR BLESSING TO THE PRESENCE OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS CONTRARY TO THE UNDERTAKING AT LANCASTER HOUSE. ARE WE DEALING WITH AN HONEST GOVERNMENT OR NOT? CAN WE EVER RELY ON THE WORD OF YOUR GOVERNMENT? WHERE IS THE GOVERNOR'S SENSE OF IMPARTIALITY THAT LORD CARRINGTON ASSURED US WE WOULD GET FROM LORD SOAMES?

YOU PROBABLY ARE AWARE THAT NONE OF MY PARTY MEN HAVE BEEN ALLOWED INTO RHODESIA. -FOR MORE THAN A WEEK NOW ANY CHARTERED PLANE WE HAVE HAD TO CARRY THEM HAS BEEN DENIED LANDING RIGHTS AND I HAVE BEEN PERSONALLY INFORMED FROM YOUR EMBASSY IN MAPUTO THAT NONE OF MY MEN WOULD BE ALLOWED ENTRY "BECAUSE MUZOREWA WAS HOLDING HIS RALLIES" AND BECAUSE A UNIT OF MY FORCES WERE RESISTING THE CEASEFIRE. WHAT CHICANERY IS THIS, MADAME PRIME MINISTER? MAY I ASK FOR YOUR PERSONAL INTERVENTION IN ALL THE MATTERS CONSTITUTING MY PARTY'S PRESENT GRIEVANCES.

WE AGREED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS PROVIDED THEY ARE FREE AND FAIR. THE ABOVE ENUMERATED DEVELOPEMENTS IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA POSE A DANGEROUS THREAT TO FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS. WITH RESPECT, LET ME NOT FIND IT NECESSAREY TO LODGE ANOTHER PROTEST ON SIMILAR LINES IN THE FUTURE. (NEXT WORD UNDERLINED) BONA FIDES IS OF ESSENCE TO ALL SIDES, IF THE HOPES OF LANCASTER HOUSE ARE TO BE REALIZED.

PLEASE ACCEPT MY HIGHEST REGARDS.

YOURS SINCERELY

R.G. MUGABE PRESIDENT (ZANU)

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FILES

RHOD D	OID
OADS	NEWS D
NAD	PS
MED	PS/SIR I GILMOUR
PUSD	PS/MR LUCE
PLANNING STAFF	PS/MR RIDLEY
ES & SD	PS/MR HURD
NENAD	PS/MR MARTEN
CCD	PS/PUS
FRD	SIR D MAITLAND
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UND	MR HANNAY
LEGAL ADVISERS	LORD N G LENNOX
(MR FREELAND)	MISS BROWN
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