

PS/NO 10 DOWNING STREET

SIR R ARMSTRONG )  
MR R L WADE GERY )  
MR P M MAXEY ) CABINET  
MR GOULTY ) OFFICE  
MR P J FOWLER )  
DIO )

SIR I GILMOUR  
PS/FR LUCE  
PS/PUS  
SIR D MAITLAND  
MR I  
LORD N G LENNOX  
MR ASPIN

470

OPS  
Subject on  
Rhodesia P13  
Situation

PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T12B/80

HD/RHOD DEPT (4)

HD/C AF D  
HD/S AF D

HD/FUSD (2)

HD/NEWS DEPT  
HD/WAD

MR FREELAND LEGAL ADVISER RMK200A  
MR FIFOOT LEGAL ADVISER RM K164  
RESIDENT CLERK

MS

RESTRICTED

FM MONROVIA 191803Z JAN 80

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO 9 OF 19 JANUARY

INFO SALISBURY LUSAKA MAPUTO GABORONE DAR ES SALAAM LAGOS WASHINGTON

UKMIS NEW YORK LUANDA

SEE MIFT

FOLLOWING MESSAGE FOR PRIME MINISTER FROM PRESIDENT TOLBERT

QUOTE MADAM PRIME MINISTER: YOUR TELEGRAPHIC LETTER OF  
17TH JANUARY CURRENT, IN REPLY TO MY MESSAGE  
REGARDING THE DISTURBING STATE OF AFFAIRS IN ZIMBABWE, HAS BEEN  
DELIVERED TO ME BY AMBASSADOR DOUBLEDAY FOR WHICH I  
THANK YOU. WHILE NOTING YOUR EXPLANATION CONCERNING  
THE PRESENCE OF A SOUTH AFRICAN CONTINGENT IN RHODESIA  
TO GUARD BEIZ BRIDGE, I MUST MAKE CLEAR THAT OUR  
UNDERSTANDING OF THE LANCASTER HOUSE AGREEMENT DOES NOT  
ALLOW FOR THE PRESENCE OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS IN RHODESIA  
FOR ANY PURPOSE WHATSOEVER. WE HAVE IN FACT BEEN  
INFORMED THAT SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS ARE NOT ONLY ON THE  
RHODESIAN SIDE OF THE BRIDGE UNDER THE PRETEXT OF PROVIDING  
SECURITY BUT ALSO IN OTHER PARTS OF RHODESIA, ALL  
CONTRARY TO THE SPIRIT AND INTENT OF THE CEASEFIRE  
AGREEMENT. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF BRITAIN, CLEARLY  
ASSUMED UNDER THE AGREEMENT, TO ENSURE THAT  
1 BARRING THE MONITORING ARRANGEMENT, THERE IS NO  
EXTERNAL INVOLVEMENT FROM ANY QUARTER WHATSOEVER AND

PARTICULARLY FROM SOUTH AFRICA. THUS AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED, SOUTH AFRICA'S RIGHT IN PROTECTING HER INTEREST IN THAT PORTION OF BEIT BRIDGE WHICH FALLS WITHIN HER TERRITORY CAN ONLY BE EXERCISED LEGITIMATELY FROM SOUTH AFRICAN TERRITORY AND NOT FROM RHODESIA. WE ARE THEREFORE AGAIN APPEALING TO YOU TO PERSONALLY USE THE FULL MEASURE OF YOUR AUTHORITY SO THAT ALL SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES IN RHODESIA WILL BE WITHDRAWN. IN OUR OPINION, WHATEVER PROTECTION MIGHT BE NEEDED BY RHODESIA IN REGARD TO BEIT BRIDGE SHOULD BE PROVIDED BY THE MONITORING FORCE. AS EXPRESSED IN OUR LAST CABLE MESSAGE TO YOU, WE CONSIDER THE DEPLOYMENT OF RHODESIAN TROOPS, WHO SHOULD BE STRICTLY CONFINED TO BARRACKS, TO BE NOT ONLY AN EXTREMELY PROVOCATIVE ACT BUT A SERIOUS BREACH OF THE LANCASTER HOUSE AGREEMENT. MOREOVER REPORTS REACHING US REVEAL THAT THE SALISBURY AUXILIARY FORCES WHO SHOULD HAVE BEEN INCORPORATED INTO THE RHODESIAN ARMY AND RESTRICTED TO BARRACKS ARE STILL ROAMING AT LARGE AND OCCUPYING AREAS VACATED BY THE FORCE OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT THE SIZEABLE NUMBER OF PATRIOTIC FRONT FORCES HAS CONFIRMED THE INADEQUACY OF ASSEMBLY POINTS ALLOTTED TO THEM. YET THE BRITISH GOVERNOR HAS APPARENTLY ELECTED TO TAKE NO ACTION TOWARDS RECTIFYING THIS SITUATION. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCE, WE FEEL THAT THE NUMBER OF ASSEMBLY POINTS ALLOWED THE PATRIOTIC FRONT FORCES SHOULD BE ADJUSTED UPWARD BY THE GOVERNOR AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE AGREEMENT. LET ME AGAIN EMPHASIZE, MADAM PRIME MINISTER, THAT THE CONTINUING PRESENCE OF SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES IN RHODESIA AND THERE BLATANT VIOLATIONS OF THE LANCASTER HOUSE AGREEMENT IF NOT BROUGHT TO AN END AND APPROPRIATE CORRECTIVE MEASURES UNDERTAKEN, ARE BOUND TO CREATE EVEN GREATER DISAPPOINTMENTS AND MORE SERIOUS APPREHENSIONS ON THE PART OF AFRICAN STATES AS TO THE SINCERITY OF YOUR GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO THE FAIR, IMPARTIAL AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LANCASTER HOUSE AGREEMENT. BECAUSE OF MY CONCERN THAT THE ATMOSPHERE FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE ZIMBABWE PROBLEM SHOULD NOT BE SULLIED AND THE POSSIBILITY FOR A FINAL AND JUST SETTLEMENT LOST, I AM AGAIN BRINGING THIS MATTER TO YOUR ATTENTION IN THE HOPE THAT THE PROCESS EMBARKED UPON TO BRING INDEPENDENCE TO ZIMBABWE WITH GENUINE MAJORITY RULE MAY BE FULLY REALIZED. WITH ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION AND ESTEEM SINCERELY

WR TOLBERT JR  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA