1. PLEASE TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO MR CLARK, TO REACH HIM NO EARLIER THAN 1930 LOCAL TIME TONIGHT.

BEGINS

DEAR JOE

I AM SURE YOU WERE AS HEARTENED AS I WAS BY THE AGREEMENT THAT WE REACHED AT LUSAKA OVER RHODESIA. I BELIEVE THAT THIS IS A MOST SIGNIFICANT ADVANCE: AND THAT A NEW BASIS HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR PROGRESS TOWARDS A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THAT AGREEMENT WE ARE NOW ISSUING INVITATIONS TO BISHOP MUZOREWA AND THE LEADERS OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT TO ATTEND A CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE IN LONDON TO BEGIN ON 10 SEPTEMBER. THIS IS ONLY THE FIRST STAGE IN A PROCESS WHICH IS BOUND TO BE DELICATE AND DIFFICULT. THE SUPPORT OF OUR FRIENDS AND ALLIES WILL BE OF PARTICULAR HELP OVER THE COMING WEEKS AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT I CAN COUNT ON YOU.

YOUR SINCERELY
MARGARET THATCHER

ENDS.

CARRINGTON

FILES NAMA DEF D ADDITIONAL DISTN. RHOD.D. OID RHODESIA POLICY OADS PS PS/SIR I GILMOUR NEWS D PS/MR. LUCE PUSD PS/MR.RIDLEY PLANNING STAFF PS/MR. HURD ES & SD PS/PUS CCD SIR A DUFF FRD SIR A PARSONS UND LORD N G LENNOX MISS BROWN LEGAL ADVS (MR. FREELAND) MR. THOMAS (MR.FIFOOT) ECON D MR. WILLSON P & CD MR. WILLIAMS

CONFIDENTIAL