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TO IMMEDIATE SALISBURY

TELEGRAM NUMBER 951 OF 8 APRIL

MY TELNO 1237: INDEPENDENCE: MESSAGES

1. THE MESSAGES FROM THE QUEEN AND THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE SPEECH BY PRINCE CHARLES HAVE BEEN APPROVED. THE FOLLOWING TEXTS MAY NOW BE DISTRIBUTED UNDER EMBARGO TO PROVINCIAL CENTRES:

(A) MESSAGE FROM THE QUEEN:

QUOTE IT IS WITH GREAT PLEASURE THAT I SEND YOU MY WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS ON THE OCCASION OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF ZIMBABWE AND, AS HEAD OF THE COMMONWEALTH, WELCOME YOU AS THE 43RD MEMBER OF OUR UNIQUE INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP.

I WELL REMEMBER MY OWN BRIEF VISIT TO YOUR BEAUTIFUL LAND WITH MY PARENTS IN 1947, AND I AM ALL THE MORE DELIGHTED THAT MY SON, THE PRINCE OF WALES, CAN BE WITH YOU ON THIS DAY.

IT IS A MOMENT FOR PEOPLE OF ALL RACES AND ALL POLITICAL PERSUASIONS TO FORGET THE BITTERNESS OF THE PAST AND TO WORK TOGETHER TO BUILD A BETTER FUTURE FOR THEIR COUNTRY AND ALL ITS CITIZENS. WITH THE GREAT NATURAL WEALTH OF YOUR LAND AND THE EXCEPTIONAL RESOURCES OF YOUR SOCIETY YOU ARE WELL EQUIPPED TO ACHIEVE THIS. I AND ALL MY PEOPLE WISH YOU EVERY GOOD FORTUNE IN YOUR ENDEAVOURS.

TODAY ALSO MARKS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW AND HAPPIER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MY COUNTRY AND YOUR OWN.

I AM CONFIDENT THAT, AS YOU SET OUT TO CREATE PEACE AND PROSPERITY, YOU WILL HAVE THE FULL SUPPORT OF BRITAIN, OF YOUR COMMONWEALTH PARTNERS AND OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

I WISH YOU ALL HAPPINESS AND SUCCESS.  
MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL. UNQUOTE

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(B) PRINCE CHARLES' SPEECH:

QUOTE WE ARE GATHERED HERE TODAY AT AN HISTORIC MOEMENT OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY. THE PRESENCE OF SO MANY LEADERS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES DEMONSTRATES THE IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO THIS EVENT BY THEIR PEOPLES, WHO HAVE FOLLOWED WITH INCREASING HOPE THE PROCESS OF A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. I AM DELIGHTED AND HONOURED, AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, TO JOIN WITH YOU IN CELEBRATING ON THIS DAY THE INDEPENDENCE OF ZIMBABWE.

ZIMBABWE HAS REACHED INDEPENDENCE IN THE FACE OF MANY DIFFICULTIES. IN MEETING THESE TROUBLES THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY HAVE SHOWN GREAT COURAGE, DETERMINATION AND ADAPTABILITY. IT IS A REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT AND A TRIBUTE TO ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN IT TO HAVE BROUGHT ZIMBABWE TO INDEPENDENCE IN CONDITIONS OF PEACE. THERE HAS BEEN SUFFERING AND SORROW IN THE PAST YEARS, BUT THE SPIRIT OF RECONCILIATION WITH WHICH YOU HAVE JOINED TOGETHER IN RECENT WEEKS TO FACE THE FUTURE SHOULD BE AN INSPIRATION TO OTHERS. THERE COULD BE NO FIRMER FOUNDATION ON WHICH TO OVERCOME THE CHALLENGES WHICH LIE AHEAD OF YOUR COUNTRY.

I SHOULD LIKE, MR PRESIDENT, TO THANK YOU AND ALL THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE FOR THE WELCOME AND THE WARM HOSPITALITY YOU HAVE SO GENEROUSLY GIVEN TO ME. I SHALL REMEMBER WITH GREAT PLEASURE MY BRIEF STAY HERE. I SHALL HOPE TO RETURN SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE, AND MEANWHILE I SHALL FOLLOW WITH CLOSE INTEREST THE FORTUNES OF ZIMBABWE.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN HAS ENTRUSTED TO ME A MESSAGE FOR YOU ALL, WHICH READS.....

AND NOW, MR PRESIDENT, IT IS MY VERY GREAT PRIVILEGE TO HAND TO YOU THESE CONSTITUTIONAL INSTRUMENTS - THE SYMBOL OF YOUR INDEPENDENCE. I DO SO WITH THE BEST WISHES OF ALL THE PEOPLE OF BRITAIN FOR THE FUTURE PEACE AND PROSPERITY OF YOUR COUNTRY. UNQUOTE.

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(C) PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE:

QUOTE I SEND YOU MY WARM CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD WISHES ON THE OCCASION OF ZIMBABWE'S INDEPENDENCE. THE GOAL TO WHICH MANY, INSIDE AND OUTSIDE YOUR COUNTRY, HAVE DEDICATED EXCEPTIONAL EFFORTS, HAS NOW BEEN ACHIEVED. WE SHARE YOUR PLEASURE ~~ON~~ THIS MEMORABLE DAY.

THE NATURAL INTERESTS OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES LIE IN CLOSE CO-OPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP. WE SHALL DO ALL WE CAN TO DEVELOP THESE, AND SHALL WORK CLOSELY WITH YOU ON THE TASKS OF RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT. I SEND YOU BEST WISHES, ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, FOR YOUR FUTURE PEACE AND PROSPERITY. UNQUOTE.

CARRINGTON

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RHOD D  
P & CD  
CCD  
HK & GD  
NEWS D  
PS  
PS/LPS  
PS/MR LUCE  
LORD TREFGARNE  
PS/PUS  
SIR D MAITLAND  
MR DAY  
MR STRATTON  
MR FIFOOT

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