

BF 13/9/79  
11 September 1979Message from President Tolbert

I attach a copy of a telegram to the Prime Minister received here <sup>10.9.79</sup> yesterday from President Tolbert of Liberia. President Tolbert writes not only as Head of State but also as current Chairman of the Organisation of African Unity.

I should be grateful for the text of a draft reply which the Prime Minister might send to President Tolbert. It would be helpful if the text could reach me by noon on Thursday 13 September.

H O ' D B A

R.M.J. Lyne, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

GRS250  
UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE BY 110900Z  
FM MONROVIA 101735Z SEPT 79  
TO IMMEDIATE F C O  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 103 OF 10 SEPTEMBER

**SUBJECT**

T101/79

**PRIME MINISTER'S**

**PERSONAL MESSAGE**

**SERIAL No. T101/79**

*Amie Amster*

*Amster 11/9*

*Amster*

FOREIGN MINISTER HAS ASKED FOR IMMEDIATE TRANSMISSION OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE.

QUOTE:

HER EXCELLENCY MARGARET THATCHER  
PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM  
LONDON ENGLAND

YOUR EXCELLENCY COLON AS YOUR GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKE TO CONVENE IN LONDON TODAY THE CONSTITUTIONAL TALKS ON ZIMBABWE IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION OF THE RECENT LUSAKA COMMONWEALTH SUMMIT I SEIZE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXTEND TO YOU OMA THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND ALL OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THIS IMPORTANT MEETING FELICITATIONS AND SINCERE BEST WISHES IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF LIBERIA AS WELL AS THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY STOP WE IN AFRICA BELIEVE THAT THE CONSTITUTIONAL TALKS WHICH HAVE BROUGHT TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE THE PRINCIPAL PARTIES TO THE ZIMBABWEAN PROBLEM HOLD GREAT POTENTIAL FOR EFFECTING A POSITIVE CHANGE IN ZIMBABWE IN THE INTEREST OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND PEACE FOR THE PEOPLE OF THAT TERRITORY STOP WE CONSIDER THIS EFFORT AS A STEP FORWARD IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION WHICH OMA IF SUCCESSFUL OMA WOULD MARK A SIGNIFICANT TURNING POINT FOR EVENTS IN THE ENTIRE SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGION STOP IT IS THEREFORE OUR HOPE THAT THE SPIRIT OF GOODWILL OMA OPEN-MINDEDNESS OMA CONCILIATION AND ACCOMMODATION WILL CHARACTERIZE THE ACTIONS OF ALL OF THE PARTICIPANTS TO THESE TALKS SO THAT AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE FORMULA MAY BE AGREED UPON WHEREBY ZIMBABWE WILL ACCEDE TO LEGAL AND GENUINE INDEPENDENCE WITH MAJORITY RULE THROUGH FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS BASED ON A DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTION FULLY GUARANTEEING THE RIGHTS OF ALL ZIMBABWEANS AND IN PARTICULAR THE OPPRESSED MAJORITY POPULATION STOP IT IS OUR FERVENT PRAYER THAT THESE CRUCIAL NEGOTIATIONS OMA WHICH WE SHALL FOLLOW WITH CONSUMING INTEREST OMA WILL BE CROWNED WITH ABUNDANT SUCCESS AND BRING FREEDOM OMA EQUALITY OMA JUSTICE AND LASTING PEACE TO ZIMBABWE STOP WITH RENEWED ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION AND ESTEEM  
SINCERELY

W R TOLBERT JR  
PRESIDENT OF LIBERIA AND CURRENT CHAIRMAN OF  
THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

UNQUOTE  
DOUBLEDAY

**F I L E S**

- WRD
- RHO D
- OADS
- HAM D
- NEWS D
- FUSD
- PLANNING STAFF
- ES & SD
- CCD
- FRD
- UED
- LEGAL ADVISERS  
(MR FREELAND)  
(MR HFOOT)
- ROOM B

- FCD
- DEF D
- OID
- PS
- PS/SIR I GILMOUR
- PS/MR INCE
- PS/MR RIDLEY
- PS/MR HURD
- PS/FUS
- SIR A DUFF
- LORD H G LENNOX
- MISS BROWN
- MR WILSON
  
- MR ASPIN

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION  
RHODESIA POLICY

[COPIES SENT TO No 10  
DOWNING STREET]