

RESTRICTED

CP 05014

- 6 MAR 1980

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FM FCO 031730Z MAR 80  
 TO FLASH SALISBURY  
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 674 OF 3 MARCH

REPLY TO WALLS

1. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS ENDORSED THE INSTRUCTIONS SENT PROVISIONALLY TO YOU EARLIER TODAY, SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS:

- (A) PARAGRAPH 3: FIRST SENTENCE: INSERT IN PARENTHESIS AT THE END 'THE PRIME MINISTER ASSUMES YOU WILL NOT WISH SIR A DUFF TO LABOUR THIS POINT, WHICH IS SELF-EVIDENT'.
- (B) PARAGRAPH 4 TO READ AS FOLLOWS: 'YOU SHOULD TELL WALLS THAT, IN THE LIGHT OF THE REPORTS FROM OUR OWN SUPERVISORS AND OBSERVERS, THE PRIME MINISTER DOES NOT CONSIDER THAT THEREARE ANY GROUNDS ON WHICH THE ELECTION COULD BE DECLARED NULL AND VOID. THE TASK NOW IS ..... GOVERNMENT.'
- (C) PARAGRAPH 5: FIFTH SENTENCE: STOP AT 'ELECTION RESULTS' AND OMIT FROM 'AND WILL BE IN TOUCH' TO 'BE ACHIEVED'.

CARRINGTON

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TO IMMEDIATE SALISBURY

TELEGRAM NUMBER 668 OF 3 MARCH

(128) MIPT : RHODESIA: MESSAGE FROM GENERAL WALLS

1. THE PRIME MINISTER DOES NOT INTEND TO REPLY TO WALLS' MESSAGE IN WRITING, BUT WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU OR SIR A DUFF COULD SPEAK TO WALLS ON THE FOLLOWING LINES, MAKING CLEAR THAT YOU ARE DOING SO ON HER PERSONAL INSTRUCTIONS. (IN THE LIGHT OF SOME OF THE COMMENTS IN WALLS' MESSAGE, YOU MAY PREFER TO ASK SIR A DUFF TO DO SO).
2. THE PRIME MINISTER WAS GLAD THAT WALLS FELT ABLE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH HER PERSONALLY TO EXPLAIN HIS CONCERNS. SHE FULLY UNDERSTANDS WHAT A DIFFICULT TIME THIS IS AND IN PARTICULAR THE UNCERTAINTY AND TENSION WHICH INEVITABLY EXISTS BETWEEN THE ELECTIONS AND THE DECLARATION OF RESULTS. SHE HAS GREATLY ADMIRERD THE LEAD TAKEN BY WALLS IN BRINGING TOGETHER THE FORCES OF THE TWO SIDES AND IN ENCOURAGING CO-OPERATION BETWEEN NKOMO, MUZOREWA AND THE WHITES, AND THESE EFFORTS HAVE HER FULL SUPPORT. THE PROSPECTS FOR A PEACEFUL AND STABLE OUTCOME WILL DEPEND UPON OTHERS BEING WILLING TO SHOW THE SAME SPIRIT OF RECONCILIATION. THE PRIME MINISTER IS VERY GRATEFUL TO WALLS FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION, AND HOPES THAT HE WILL CONTINUE TO DO HIS BEST TO KEEP ALL THE PARTIES CALM DURING THE DIFFICULT PERIOD AHEAD.
3. IT SHOULD BE MADE CLEAR TO WALLS THAT THE PRIME MINISTER REGARDS HIS CRITICISMS OF YOU AS ENTIRELY UNJUSTIFIED. THE RSF HAVE BEEN DEPLOYED FULLY THROUGHOUT THE INTERIM PERIOD AND IN A WAY WHICH HAS ENABLED THEM TO MAINTAIN FULL CONTROL OVER THE MILITARY SITUATION. NO ATTEMPT HAS BEEN MADE TO INTERFERE WITH THE NJOC'S MILITARY JUDGMENT. THE ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS TO THE ELECTIONS WAS AGREED AT LANCASTER HOUSE. IT IS ALSO

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VITAL TO SECURING INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTANCE FOR RHODESIA.

4. YOU SHOULD LEAVE WALLS IN NO DOUBT THAT, IN THE LIGHT OF THE REPORTS FROM OUR OWN SUPERVISORS AND OBSERVERS AS WELL AS INTERNATIONAL GROUPS, THE PRIME MINISTER DOES NOT SHARE HIS VIEW THAT MASSIVE INTIMIDATION HAS FRUSTRATED THE FREE CHOICE OF THE PEOPLE (ALTHOUGH SHE REALISES THAT THERE HAS BEEN SOME INTIMIDATION). THERE ARE NO GROUNDS, IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S VIEW, ON WHICH THE ELECTION COULD BE DECLARED NULL AND VOID. THE TASK NOW IS TO MAKE THE BEST OF THE OUTCOME TO ENSURE A STABLE GOVERNMENT.

5. THE COMPOSITION OF THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT MUST, IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S VIEW, REFLECT THE NEED FOR UNITY AND RECONCILIATION. IT REMAINS HER OBJECTIVE, AS EXPLAINED TO WALLS DURING LANCASTER HOUSE, TO SEE RHODESIA BROUGHT TO INDEPENDENCE WITH AS STABLE AND MODERATE A GOVERNMENT AS POSSIBLE WHICH FAIRLY REFLECTS THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS HEARD WITH INTEREST AND APPROVAL OF THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN TAKING PLACE BETWEEN BISHOP MUZOREWA, MR NKOMO AND THE RHODESIAN FRONT, WITH THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE NJOC, AND HOPES THAT THESE CAN ESTABLISH THE FOUNDATIONS FOR SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION IN THE POST-ELECTION PERIOD. DEPENDING ON THE ELECTION RESULTS, IT MAY ALSO BE NECESSARY TO ACCOMMODATE OTHER PARTIES WHO ARE EQUALLY PREPARED TO COMMIT THEMSELVES TO THE GOALS OF UNITY AND RECONCILIATION. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS ASKED THE GOVERNOR TO KEEP HER CLOSELY INFORMED OF HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE POLITICAL LEADERS FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ELECTION RESULTS AND WILL BE IN TOUCH FURTHER WITH WALLS TO CONSIDER HOW OUR COMMON OBJECTIVE OF A STABLE FUTURE FOR RHODESIA CAN BEST BE ACHIEVED. WE INTEND TO ASSIST IN ANY WAY WE CAN WITH THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN THE TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE. IN THE MEANTIME THE PRIME MINISTER URGES WALLS, IN THE STRONGEST TERMS, TO COUNSEL HIS COLLEAGUES TO SHOW CALM AND RESTRAINT: IT IS ONLY ON THAT BASIS THAT WE CAN WORK SUCCESSFULLY TOGETHER FOR A GOVERNMENT WITH BROAD SUPPORT UNDER WHICH ALL THE PEOPLE OF RHODESIA WILL CONTINUE TO FEEL SECURE IN THEIR FUTURE.

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