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Subject on
Rhodesia Situation
Pt 11

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DESKBY 110730Z GABORONE

FM FCO 102135Z DEC 79

TO IMMEDIATE GABORONE

TELEGRAM NUMBER 230 OF 10 DECEMBER 79

AND TO IMMEDIATE LUSAKA

INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON, UKMIS NEW YORK

LS

NIFT: RHODESIA

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. 7764 D/79T

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MESSAGE

DRAFT MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENTS KAUNDA/
SERETSE KHAMA

DEAR KENNETH/~~SIR~~ SERETSE,

THIS MORNING IN THE RHODESIA CONFERENCE PETER CARRINGTON
MADE A FINAL PRESENTATION OF OUR DETAILED PROPOSALS FOR A
CEASEFIRE.

AS YOU KNOW, WE ARE PROPOSING A CEASEFIRE COMMISSION
ON WHICH THE MILITARY COMMANDERS OF BOTH SIDES WILL BE REPRESENTED
AND WHICH WILL HAVE THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUPERVISING
THE CEASEFIRE. THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENSURING THE COMPLIANCE
OF THEIR FORCES WITH THE CEASEFIRE WILL REST WITH THE COMMANDERS
ON BOTH SIDES. WE ARE PROPOSING THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT
FORCES SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT PLACES IN THEIR OPERATIONAL AREAS,
WHERE THEIR SECURITY, ACCOMMODATION AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS CAN
BE PROVIDED FOR. THEY WILL ASSEMBLE WITH THEIR ARMS UNDER THE
AUTHORITY OF THEIR OWN COMMANDERS. THE PROCESS OF DISENGAGEMENT
WILL BE RECIPROCAL. PROVIDED THAT THE ASSEMBLY OF PATRIOTIC FRONT
FORCES IS COMPLETE AND THAT THERE IS A CESSATION
OF THE MOVEMENT OF ARMED PATRIOTIC FRONT PERSONNEL FROM
NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES INTO RHODESIA, THE PROCESS
OF DISENGAGEMENT WILL BE COMPLETE AND THE FORCES WILL NOT BE
IN CONTACT AND THE RHODESIAN FORCES WILL NOT NEED TO
DEPLOY FROM THEIR COMPANY BASES. WE ARE ALSO PROPOSING A SUBSTANTIAL
MONITORING FORCE TO ASSIST WITH THE OBSERVATION AND
MAINTENANCE OF THE CEASEFIRE. THE FORCE IS AT PRESENT STANDING
BY AND IS READY TO REACH RHODESIA WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

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/WE HAVE

WE HAVE ALREADY ENACTED THE INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTION ON THE BASIS OF GENUINE MAJORITY RULE: AND THERE IS AGREEMENT IN THE CONFERENCE THAT ELECTIONS IN WHICH ALL PARTIES CAN PARTICIPATE SHOULD BE HELD UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF A BRITISH GOVERNOR WITH FULL EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE POWERS.

THE APPOINTMENT AS GOVERNOR OF CHRISTOPHER SOAMES, A VERY SENIOR CABINET MINISTER, DEMONSTRATES THE IMPORTANCE WHICH MY GOVERNMENT ATTACHES TO THE TASK OF BRINGING THE STATE OF REBELLION IN RHODESIA TO AN END AND ENABLING THE COUNTRY TO BE BROUGHT TO LEGAL INDEPENDENCE. CHRISTOPHER SOAMES WILL BE LEAVING LONDON TODAY TO TAKE UP HIS APPOINTMENT IN SALISBURY. WHEN HE ARRIVES THERE TOMORROW AND HIS AUTHORITY IS ACCEPTED, THE STATE OF REBELLION IN RHODESIA WILL HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO AN END. THE GOVERNOR WILL SET IN HAND IMMEDIATELY THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ELECTIONS IN WHICH ALL PARTIES CAN PARTICIPATE WITH AN EQUAL CHANCE OF SUCCESS. HE WILL ALSO SET IN HAND WHATEVER ACTION IS NECESSARY TO NORMALISE RELATIONS BETWEEN RHODESIA AND ZAMBIA. RHODESIA WILL HAVE RETURNED TO LAWFUL GOVERNMENT AS PART OF HER MAJESTY'S DOMINIONS. A BRITISH AUTHORITY IN SALISBURY IS ESSENTIAL TO THE PROCESS OF FINALISING THE DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CEASEFIRE. IT IS INDISPENSABLE THAT FOR THIS PURPOSE, WE SHOULD HAVE CONTROL OVER THE RHODESIAN ARMED FORCES, POLICE ETC SO THAT THE LOGISTIC AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS MAY BE MADE FOR THE CEASEFIRE AND FOR THE SECURITY AND ACCOMMODATION AND OTHER AGREED REQUIREMENTS OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT FORCES.

BRITAIN HAS BEEN URGED FOR MANY YEARS TO ASSERT ITS AUTHORITY AND TO CARRY OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO DECOLONISE RHODESIA. THIS WE ARE NOW DOING. IT IS OF COURSE ONE OF OUR ESSENTIAL OBJECTIVES THAT ALL PARTIES SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT, PROVIDED THEY ARE PREPARED TO PUT THEIR POLITICAL SUPPORT TO THE TEST IN FREE ELECTIONS UNDER OUR AUTHORITY AND COMMIT THEMSELVES TO CAMPAIGN PEACEFULLY.

I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT, WITH GOODWILL, FINAL AGREEMENT ON THE DETAILS OF THE CEASEFIRE CAN BE REACHED IN LONDON IN THE NEXT ONE OR TWO DAYS. WE WOULD WISH TO SEE THE CEASEFIRE COME INTO EFFECT IMMEDIATELY, THEREBY SPARING THE PEOPLE OF YOUR COUNTRY AS WELL AS THE PEOPLE OF RHODESIA ANY FURTHER SUFFERING OF THE KIND THEY HAVE HAD TO BEAR FOR THE LAST FOURTEEN YEARS.

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OUR SUPPORT HAS BEEN OF DECISIVE IMPORTANCE IN EARLIER PHASES OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS, AS IT WAS AT THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING AT LUSAKA. I HOPE THAT YOU WILL BE PREPARED TO EXERT YOUR INFLUENCE TO PERSUADE THE PATRIOTIC FRONT TO ACCEPT THE CEASEFIRE PROPOSALS AND TO AGREE THAT THEY SHOULD BE BROUGHT INTO EFFECT IMMEDIATELY. WE STAND READY, AS YOU KNOW, TO ASSIST WITH THE PROCESS OF BRINGING ABOUT THE RETURN OF REFUGEES TO RHODESIA. WE SHALL COUNT ON YOUR COOPERATION IN ENSURING A CESSATION OF CROSS-BORDER MILITARY ACTIVITY BY THE MOVEMENT OF RHODESIAN FORCES INTO ZAMBIA OR BY THE MOVEMENT OF PATRIOTIC FRONT FORCES INTO RHODESIA.

A SETTLEMENT IS NOW WITHIN OUR GRASP. WE ARE IN A POSITION TO CARRY OUT OUR RESPONSIBILITIES AND FULLY INTEND TO DO SO.

I HOPE THAT YOU WILL HELP TO ENSURE THAT ALL PARTIES PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTIONS.

WITH BEST WISHES.

MARGARET.

CARRINGTON

FILES

RHOD D
ROADS
NAM D
MED.
PUSD
PLANNING STAFF
ES & SD
NENAD
CCD
FRD
EID (E)
UND
LEGAL ADVISERS
(MR STEEL)
(MR FREELAND)
(MR FIFOOT)
ECON D

PCD
DEF D
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NEWS D
PS
PS/LPS
PS/MR LUCE
PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/MR HURD
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SIR A DUFF
MR BULLARD
MR FRETWELL
LORD N G LENNOX
MISS BROWN
MR DAY
MR WILLSON
MR ASPIN

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