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*Agreed out.*

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London S.W.1

*Cleared with Content  
Desk by phone  
50/11/79*

21 December 1979

*21.12.79.*

*Dear Michael,*

Rhodesia: Message to African Presidents

The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary would like to instruct our posts in the Front Line States, Nigeria and Liberia, to convey an oral message on behalf of the Prime Minister and himself as soon as possible after the signature of the Rhodesian Agreements. I enclose a draft telegram to the posts concerned. As you will see, the object of the instructions is both to thank the Presidents of these countries for their help during the negotiations and to enlist their support in ensuring that the Patriotic Front comply with the terms of the ceasefire.

Lord Carrington would also like to send parallel instructions to HM Ambassador at Pretoria. These are contained in the second of the enclosed telegrams. As you may have seen from Pretoria telno 1018 (copy enclosed) the Prime Minister's references to South Africa in her speech in New York have been very well received by the South African Government and press. South African Ministers have recently been restrained in their public statements about Rhodesia; and we believe they have made helpful interventions with the Salisbury Delegation. We would like the South Africans to continue to impress on the White Rhodesians and Bishop Muzorewa that it is essential to carry through the ceasefire and electoral procedures fairly. A warm personal message to the South African Prime Minister and Foreign Minister conveyed by Mr Leahy could encourage the South Africans to co-operate with us over Rhodesia and Southern African generally.

*He has  
informed  
so.*

*(Lord Carrington has not yet seen the text of the telegram to Pretoria, which I shall show him at the earliest opportunity).*

*yours ever*

*Roderic Lyne*

(R M J Lyne)  
Private Secretary

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