

PERSONAL



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

5 December 1979

and

Primo Minister

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Jean Jaide

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Before you went to the United States, and at a time when we had just passed the two thirds mark at Lancaster House, you wrote me a very charitable letter. I had hoped that by the time you returned we would have reached the end of the Conference. Though I am not yet sure what the final outcome will be, we are very nearly at the end, and I think I can now safely release you from your obligations as a member of the British delegation!

I can also thank you for your kind words - though in truth far the hardest part is what now lies ahead of us. Perhaps I can utter a few words of my own, while reserving absolutely my right to ask for your help again. Before Lancaster House, before Lusaka, you were saddled with the unenviable and enormously difficult task of breaking the ice and of starting the process which has led us very close to an agreement. You had to overcome an apparently solid barrier of suspicion and start a dialogue. Many people would have baulked at taking on such an assignment and, in so doing, putting their own reputations on the line. You not only took on the job, but did it marvellously well. And instead of then bowing out with honour, you have gone on helping us since. In particular, I feel sure that your visit to the United States in October made an invaluable contribution towards steadying American opinion on Rhodesia.

I am enormously grateful for all you have done, for the time you have given to Rhodesia, and above all for the

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The Rt Hon Lord Harlech KCMG



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quality of your advice. You have made a vital contribution.
I hope that you will forgive me if I have to turn to you again.
I know that the Prime Minister (to whom I am sending a copy of
this letter) would wish to be associated with these sentiments.

You were splendid.

J *Pdz*

(CARRINGTON)

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