

Rhodesia

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Prest

Prime Minister

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FCS/80/13

CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER

Implementation of the Rhodesian Settlement

1. We informed Parliament on 18 December that the estimated cost of the Rhodesian settlement was £27 million. The latest indications are that the overall cost is likely to be close to £31 million. The cost of the Governor and his staff and the entire election exercise, excluding military and transport costs, is now likely to be about £5.2 million. The monitoring of the ceasefire, including the provision of accommodation and other facilities for the Patriotic Front at their assembly places and headquarters, will cost nearly £9 million, while the total cost of military and civil transport is expected to be about £16.8 million.
2. The increases are due to several reasons. Experience in the field showed that the Monitoring Force needed six additional light helicopters and two further Hercules aircraft in Rhodesia for supply drops at the Patriotic Front assembly places. This has in turn produced a need for additional supply flights from the UK to provide the maintenance equipment and spares for these aircraft. The cost of in-country flying has been revised upwards by the MOD. The Patriotic Front forces assembled in greater numbers than we had expected and we have thus incurred additional expenditure on the provision of essential facilities at the Patriotic Front assembly places. It has proved impossible to provide adequate press facilities at Government House for the very large number of journalists following events in Rhodesia and separate accommodation has had to be found to establish a press centre.
3. Your officials have agreed the inclusion in the FCO Spring Estimates of a figure of £31 million. I very much hope that this will cover everything and there will be no cause for further increases though I cannot guarantee that there will not be further unforeseen demands. I shall be reminding the Governor of the need for financial constraint. In the meantime I imagine



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you will agree that we should inform Parliament of the increased costs. I will arrange for this to be done.

4. I am copying this minute to the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for Defence and Sir Robert Armstrong.

*C*  
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(CARRINGTON)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

24 January 1980

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