

Prime Minister

33

RHODESIA: POLICY: ADVANCE COPIES]

PS
PS/SIR I. GILMOUR
PS/MR LUCE
PS/PUS
SIR D MAITLAND
MR DAY
Sir L. Allinson
MR ASPIH

PS/NO 10 DOWNING STREET

SIR R ARMSTRONG)
MR R L WADE GERY)
MR P M MAXEY) CABINET
MR GOULFY) OFFICE
MR W N WENBAN SMITH)
DIO)

MS

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HD/RHOD DEPT (4)

HD/C AF D
HD/S AF D
HD/UND
HD/PUSD (2)

HD/NEWS DEPT
HE/WAD
PS/SIR I SINCLAIR
MR FREELAND LEGAL ADVISER RMK200A
MR BLFOOT
RESIDENT CLERK

PP BONN

PP ROME

GRS 300A

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM SALISBURY C72005Z MAR 80

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 998 OF 7 MARCH 1980

INFO IMMEDIATE DAR ES SALAAM LUSAKA MAPUTO LUANDA GABORONE LAGOS
CAPETOWN PRETORIA NAIROBI PRIORITY CANBERRA WELLINGTON WASHINGTON
UKMIS NEW YORK OTTAWA EC POSTS.

RHODESIA: PRESS.

1. AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE ON 7 MARCH, MY SPOKESMAN MADE THE AGREED
STATEMENT ON BRITAIN'S FUTURE RELATIONS WITH ZIMBABWE. CONFIRMATORY
TEXT IN M I F T. IN ANSWER TO QUESTION HE DECLINED TO GIVE A FIGURE
FOR CAPITAL AID TO ZIMBABWE, AND RECAPITULATED THE POSITION ON LAND
DEVELOPMENT AS IT EMERGED FROM LANCASTER HOUSE ON 19 OCTOBER 1979.

- attached.

2. HE ALSO ANNOUNCED...

2. HE ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT THE CEASE FIRE COMMISSION, AT ITS MEETING ON 7 MARCH HAD AGREED THAT IT NEED NOT MEET AGAIN 'IN VIEW OF THE FORMATION OF AN INTEGRATION COMMITTEE ON WHICH THE PF AND RHODESIAN COMMANDERS WILL SIT TOGETHER AND ISSUE ORDERS DOWN THEIR OWN RESPECTIVE CHAINS OF COMMAND'. THE COMMUNIQUE ENDS 'THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION PARTED WITH SOME SADNESS'.

3. AT HIS SEPARATE PRESS CONFERENCE, DR EDSON ZVOBGO, SPOKESMAN FOR THE PRIME MINISTER DESIGNATE, ANNOUNCED THAT MUGABE AND NKOMO HAD 'MOVED DECISIVELY TO AGREE ON DEFINITE MINISTRIES THAT WILL BE OFFERED TO OUR PF ALLIES' HE PROMISED TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS AT 1230 ON 8 MARCH, AND TO GIVE FULL DETAILS OF THE CABINET BY TUESDAY 11 MARCH. IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS HE CONFIRMED THAT MUGABE WAS COMMITTED TO TAKING EUROPEANS INTO THE CABINET BUT 'NOT NECESSARILY FROM THE RHODESIA FRONT'. HE SAID THAT THE DATE FOR INDEPENDENCE WOULD BE ANNOUNCED 'WITHIN THREE DAYS'. HE GAVE SKILFULLY ANODYNE REPLIES TO QUESTIONS ABOUT SPORTING RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA, THE FUTURE OF THE SELOUS SCOUTS, AND THE THOUGHT THAT ZANU PF MIGHT USE ITS COALITION MAJORITY TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION ON SUCH MATTERS AS CITIZENSHIP.

SOAMES

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~~ED/UND~~

HD/PUSD (2)

HD/NEWS DEPT

HE/WAD

PS/SIR I SINCLAIR

MR FRELAND LEGAL ADVISER FMK200A

MR FINOOT

RESIDENT CLERK

nis

GRS 550A

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM SALISBURY 072010Z MAR 80

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 999 OF 7 MARCH 1980

INFO IMMEDIATE DAR ES SALAAM LUSAKA MAPUTO LUANDA GABORONE LAGOS
CAPETOWN PRETORIA NAIROBI PRIORITY CANBERRA WELLINGTON WASHINGTON
UKMIS NEW YORK OTTAWA EC POSTS.

M I P T BRITAIN AND ZIMBABWE

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT ISSUED TONIGHT BY GOVERNOR'S
SPOKESMAN.

BRITAIN'S PURPOSE IN RHODESIA IS TO ACHIEVE AN ORDERLY TRANSFER
OF POWER TO A DULY ELECTED GOVERNMENT IN CIRCUMSTANCES OF PEACE AND
STABILITY. THE ELECTIONS HAVE NOW TAKEN PLACE AND A GOVERNMENT IS
BEING FORMED. ATTENTION NOW SHIFTS TO THE TASK OF ASSURING A STABLE
AND PEACEFUL START IN LIFE FOR THE NEW ZIMBABWE. ALTHOUGH BRITAIN'S
RESPONSIBILITY FOR ZIMBABWE WILL END AT INDEPENDENCE, WE WILL
CONTINUE TO HAVE A STRONG INTEREST IN CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS
WITH THE NEW STATE.

WE SHALL PROCEED DELIBERATELY TOWARDS INDEPENDENCE. THERE IS NO NEED FOR HASTE. THE DATE FOR INDEPENDENCE WILL BE AGREED WITH THE NEW GOVERNMENT, AND IT WILL COME AFTER THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN APPOINTED AND ITS MEMBERS HAVE HAD TIME TO FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH THEIR DUTIES. IT IS TOO EARLY TO SET AN EXACT DATE, BUT INDEPENDENCE DAY IS LIKELY TO BE TOWARDS THE END OF MARCH OR EARLY IN APRIL.

BRITAIN STANDS READY TO HELP BOTH BEFORE AND AFTER INDEPENDENCE. THE MOST URGENT TASK IS THE INTEGRATION OF THE FORCES. THIS HAS ALREADY BEGUN, AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE CARRIED FORWARD UNDER THE DIRECTION OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL WALLS. THE MONITORING FORCE IS HELPING IN THIS TASK. THE DIRECTOR OF OVERSEAS MILITARY ASSISTANCE AT THE BRITISH MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, MAJOR GENERAL PERKINS, WILL BE COMING HERE NEXT WEEK FOR CONSULTATIONS. HIS VISIT IS LIKELY TO LEAD TO THE APPOINTMENT OF A BRITISH MILITARY ADVISORY AND TRAINING TEAM WHOSE ASSIGNMENT WILL CONTINUE WELL BEYOND INDEPENDENCE. AT LANCASTER HOUSE, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT INDICATED THAT IT WAS READY TO ASSIST WITH THE RETRAINING AND RESETTLEMENT OF THOSE MEMBERS OF THE FORCES WHO WISH TO PURSUE A CIVIL CAREER. ARRANGEMENTS FOR RESETTLEMENT AND RETRAINING WILL BE SET INHAND URGENTLY. WE HOPE THAT OTHER COUNTRIES WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THIS IMPORTANT UNDERTAKING.

BRITAIN IS ALSO PREPARED TO PROVIDE OTHER TEAMS WHOSE TASK WOULD BE TO ADVISE AND ASSIST THE NEW GOVERNMENT WITH ITS ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS IN OTHER FIELDS. THE TASKS OF THESE TEAMS WILL ALSO CONTINUE BEYOND INDEPENDENCE.

BRITAIN WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE RECONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION OF THIS COUNTRY'S ECONOMY THROUGH ECONOMIC AID, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. WE WILL ENCOURAGE OTHER COUNTRIES TO DO LIKEWISE.

INCREASING COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC LINKS BETWEEN ZIMBABWE AND BRITAIN WILL BENEFIT BOTH COUNTRIES. ZIMBABWE WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR ACCESSION TO THE LOME CONVENTION AND TO BENEFIT FROM THE AID AND ACCESS TO THE MARKETS OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY WHICH THIS WOULD PROVIDE.

THE NEW ZIMBABWE WILL NO DOUBT WISH TO JOIN INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS, PARTICULARLY THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS SPECIALISED AGENCIES. BRITAIN WILL BE READY TO SPONSOR THESE APPLICATIONS AND FOLLOWING MR MUGABE'S REQUEST HAS ASKED THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY GENERAL TO CONSULT OTHER COMMONWEALTH MEMBERS WITH A VIEW TO ZIMBABWE BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

BRITAIN HAS A CONTINUING INTEREST IN ZIMBABWE, AND A GREAT GOODWILL FOR ITS FUTURE. THESE PROPOSALS ARE A MEASURE OF OUR DETERMINATION TO CARRY THROUGH TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OUR PURPOSE TO ASSURE THAT THE NEW ZIMBABWE BEGINS ITS LIFE IN CIRCUMSTANCES OF PEACE, PROSPERITY AND RECONCILIATION.