

CONFIDENTIAL

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FROM F.C.O. 131425Z AUG 79

TO IMMEDIATE MONROVIA

TELEGRAM NUMBER 79 OF 13 AUGUST 1979

DESKBY 131500Z

RHODESIA

1. PLEASE TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT TOLBERT, TO REACH HIM FIRST THING TOMORROW 14 AUGUST.
BEGINS:

DEAR MR PRESIDENT, YOU WILL HAVE SEEN THE TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT ON RHODESIA WHICH WAS REACHED AT THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING IN LUSAKA ON 5 AUGUST. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS AGREEMENT HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE TO ESTABLISH A NEW BASIS FOR PROGRESS TOWARDS A SOLUTION TO THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM WHICH HAS POSED SUCH A THREAT TO THE STABILITY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THAT AGREEMENT WE ARE NOW ISSUING INVITATIONS TO BISHOP MUZOREWA AND THE LEADERS OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT TO ATTEND A CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE IN LONDON. THIS WILL BE THE FIRST STEP IN A PROCESS WHICH IS BOUND TO BE DIFFICULT. I KNOW THAT YOU YOURSELF HAVE ALWAYS FAVOURED A SETTLEMENT INVOLVING NEGOTIATIONS WITH ALL THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT, AS YOU EXPLAINED TO RICHARD LUCE WHEN YOU KINDLY RECEIVED HIM IN JUNE. I AM THEREFORE COUNTING ON YOUR SUPPORT IN OUR EFFORTS TO BRING A LASTING SETTLEMENT BASED ON GENUINE BLACK MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA.
YOURS SINCERELY,

MARGARET THATCHER

ENDS:

2. YOU MAY DRAW ON FCO TELNOS 139-142 TO MIRIMBA SALISBURY IN TALKING TO GOVERNMENT TO WHICH YOU ARE ACCREDITED. YOU SHOULD ALSO MAKE FULL USE OF GUIDANCE MATERIAL.

CARRINGTON

FILES
RHOD.D.
OADS
N AM D
NEWS D
PUSD
PLANNING STAFF
ES & SD
CCD
FRD
UND
LEGAL ADVS (MR. FREELAND)
(MR. FIFOOT)
ECON D
P & CD

DEF D
OID
PS
PS/SIR I GILMOUR
PS/MR. LUCE
PS/MR. RIDLEY
PS/MR. HURD
PS/PUS
SIR A DUFF
SIR A PARSONS
LORD N G LENNOX
MISS BROWN
MR. THOMAS
MR. WILLSON
MR. WILLIAMS

ADDITIONAL DISTN.
RHODESIA POLICY

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