

CONFIDENTIAL

Rhodesia



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

3 September, 1979.

Rhodesia: Constitutional Conference

The Prime Minister has seen the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary's undated minute to her about the Constitutional Conference due to open next week. She is in general content with the line set out in Lord Carrington's minute.

The Prime Minister has, however, noted that Annex D, paragraph 3, provides for an election to take place "under impartial supervision" and only adds subsequently (paragraph 4) that HMG is "prepared to assume" its responsibility to see that this requirement, inter alia, is met. In the Prime Minister's view, HMG is charged with responsibility for the election, and the election should be held under British supervision.

The Prime Minister has also noted that Annex D makes no provision for a referendum, should that be thought preferable to an election.

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