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for Rhodesia Pt 2

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

2 July 1979

Prime Minister's Bilateral Meeting with Premier Clark of Canada
in the New Otani Hotel, Tokyo, on 29 June 1979 at 1900

By prior agreement, the Prime Minister had a short bilateral meeting with Premier Clark of Canada on the final day of the Economic Summit meeting in Tokyo, 29 June. Premier Clark, accompanied only by his Private Secretary, called on the Prime Minister in her hotel suite at 1900. Much of the conversation was devoted to domestic political matters. The following is a summary of the main points which arose on international issues.

Rhodesia and the CHGM

The Prime Minister summarised for Mr. Clark the security considerations of which she would have to take account in deciding whether to advise The Queen not to travel to Lusaka for her State Visit and for the CHGM. The Prime Minister indicated that, in certain circumstances, she might wish to consult Mr. Clark, among others, and seek his views. Present indications were, however, that President Kaunda was doing his best to implement his undertaking to secure the removal of ground-to-air missiles from the Lusaka area.

The Prime Minister went on to inform Mr. Clark of Lord Harlech's recent tour of the Front Line and other Southern African states. In the British Government's view, the Rhodesian elections had created a new situation; but it was clear that the Front Line Presidents would not accept the totality of the Rhodesian constitution. Lord Harlech would be travelling to Salisbury on 2 July for talks with Bishop Muzorewa and the Bishop himself would subsequently be travelling first to Washington and then to London. The British Government wished to use the advance which had taken place in Rhodesia as a basis for further movement. The Front Line Presidents seemed to believe that a final constitution for Zimbabwe-Rhodesia should be vetted or sponsored by the UK. The Government would try to get as far as they could in advance of the CHGM and would then have some proposals to make at that meeting.

/Mr. Clark

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Mr. Clark did not dissent from the Prime Minister's assessment and emphasised that he would like to be kept fully informed of further developments, through whatever channels the Prime Minister wished to designate. He, for his part, would ensure that the Canadian Government was not committed to any firm decision on Rhodesia in advance of the Lusaka meeting. The Prime Minister said that she would ensure that Mr. Clark was kept fully informed, through our High Commissioner in Ottawa. Mr. Clark told the Prime Minister that, although the Canadian High Commissioner in London had urged him to travel to Lusaka via London, he had decided to make his first visit as Premier to Francophone Africa and would therefore be visiting Senegal en route to Lusaka.