



*State House
Lusaka, Republic of Zambia*

29th November, 1990.

My Dear Margaret,

As you leave 10 Downing Street, I want you to know that the fact that we have differed over many issues involving the possible solutions to the problems of Southern Africa does not in any way detract from the fact that you have provided for this world a formidable type of leadership, clear in your own thoughts, words and deeds even where these isolated you from the rest in any given situation. It must be admitted, at least I think so, that this world needs more and more of this type of leadership.

History can never forget, nor indeed ignore, the fact that you were the first Western leader to identify the super qualities of leadership in one called Mikhail Gorbachev. Nor can we forget, let alone ignore, your contribution to the breaking down of the extremely dangerous ideological wall that separated the East from the West.

Yes, for us in Southern Africa, we shall always remember that you came to Lusaka in 1979 determined to recognise Zimbabwe/Rhodesia as an independent state, but you listened to reason and here again you took decisions that moulded the beginnings of an independent Zimbabwe. In this outmoded so-called man's world, it required a mother to put an end to the carnage that led to the destruction of more than 45,000 lives. We cannot forget, nor can we thank you sufficiently, for this.

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Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP,
House of Commons,
LONDON S.W.1.



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Even in situations where we differed vehemently over policies in Southern Africa, I remained your open admirer. In retirement from that office you will continue to command my open love, respect and admiration which I extend to your dear husband who has stood behind you in all situations. He, too, deserves our thanks.

I wish you God's guidance as you prepare for a new and quieter life.

Yours ever,

Kenneth

Kenneth D. Kaunda
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA