CONFIDENTIAL





Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

20 May 1986

Dear Charles,

As he told the Prime Minister this morning, the Foreign Secretary believes that there is a strong case for her to send an early message to President Botha, making quite clear our disapproval of the South African raids on Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe. However, before putting forward a draft he wishes first to discuss yesterday's events and their implications with Lord Barber, whom he will be meeting on 21 May.

Meanwhile he thinks it important that the Prime Minister should send messages of sympathy to Presidents Kaunda, Mugabe and Masire.

Clearly the wording of the individual messages should be consistent with the public position we have already adopted and, in the case of Botswana, with the words the Prime Minister used to President Masire in June last year following the last South African attack on Gaborone.

I enclose draft messages.

Yours ever, Olin Budd

(C R Budd) Private Secretary

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