

Security

SUBJECT

GRS 450
RESTRICTED
DESKBY 021000Z
FM DAR ES SALAAM 020735Z MAR 82
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TEL NO 071 OF 02 MARCH 1982

RESTRICTED
PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 36/82

MIPT

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT NYERERE
TO THE PRIME MINISTER

vc. master set
opt

DEAR MRS. THATCHER,

I WRITE TO EXPRESS MY OWN VERY DEEP APPRECIATION
AND THANKS, AS WELL AS THAT OF THE GOVERNMENT AND
PEOPLE OF TANZANIA, TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND TO
THE BRITISH POLICE FOR THE ACTIONS WHICH BROUGHT TO
A SATISFACTORY END THE HI-JACKING OF THE TANZANIAN PLANE.

YOU WILL UNDERSTAND THE ANXIETY AND THE FEELING OF
HELPLESSNESS HERE WHEN WE HEARD THAT THE PLANE HAD BEEN
TAKEN OVER. WE REALISED THAT WE WERE ENTIRELY DEPENDENT
UPON THE GOODWILL AND THE CAPACITY OF THOSE COUNTRIES
WHERE THE HI-JACKERS CHOSE TO LAND. WHEN THERE SEEMED TO
BE A POSSIBILITY THAT THEY WOULD FORCE THE PLANE TO COME
TO BRITAIN, I THEREFORE CALLED SIR PETER MOON, YOUR HIGH
COMMISSIONER HERE, TO ASK FOR BRITISH HELP. BEFORE I
COULD DO SO HE ASSURED ME THAT BRITAIN WOULD BRING THE
HI-JACK TO AN END. I DID APPRECIATE THIS IMMEDIATE
GESTURE.

EVEN SO, HI-JACKERS ARE UNPREDICTABLE. I WOULD
THEREFORE LIKE TO PAY A VERY GENUINE TRIBUTE TO
MR. WILLIAM WHITELAW WHO TOOK OVERALL CHARGE OF THE
OPERATION AND PREPARED FOR ANY EVENTUALITY. I WOULD ALSO
LIKE TO PAY A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO MR. ROBERT BUNYARD, THE
CHIEF CONSTABLE OF THE ESSEX POLICE, AND ALL THOSE WHO
WORKED UNDER HIS DIRECTION. IT WAS A TREMENDOUS
ACHIEVEMENT TO PERSUADE THE HI-JACKERS TO RELEASE ALL THE
HOSTAGES, AND FINALLY TO SURRENDER THEMSELVES WITHOUT
DAMAGING THE PLANE. I REALISE THE STRAIN THAT MUST HAVE
BEEN FELT BY ALL THOSE AT STANSTED AIRPORT THROUGHOUT
THEIR LONG NEGOTIATIONS WITH THESE UNKNOWN BUT ARMED
INDIVIDUALS.

I AM VERY HAPPY INDEED THAT IT WAS NOT NECESSARY TO
TAKE ANY ACTION WHICH WOULD HAVE INVOLVED RISK TO THE
LIFE OF ANY PERSON, BUT I DO NOT IN CONSEQUENCE
UNDERESTIMATE THE DIFFICULTY OF WHAT WAS DONE. NOR AM
I LACKING IN APPRECIATION OF THOSE WHO 'STOOD BY' IN

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CASE SOME OTHER KIND OF ACTION PROVED TO BE UNAVOIDABLE.

AS IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO THANK ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN THIS OPERATION I SHALL BE FURTHER INDEBTED TO YOU IF YOU WOULD CONVEY TO THE BRITISH PEOPLE THE GRATEFUL THANKS OF ALL TANZANIANS.

I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SEND MY WARM PERSONAL GREETINGS AND GOOD WISHES TO YOU. I AM TOLD THAT YOU YOURSELF SPENT A LONG TIME AT STANSTED ENSURING THAT EVERYTHING WENT WELL, AND CAN ONLY SAY THAT I DO APPRECIATE THIS DEMONSTRATION OF YOUR PERSONAL CONCERN.

YOURS SINCERELY,
JULIUS K. NYERERE

MOON

HI-JACKING: NON-BRITISH AIRCRAFT

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ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION

ATTACKS ON NON-BRITISH
AIRCRAFT

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UNCLASSIFIED
DESKBY 021000Z
FM DAR ES SALAAM 020750Z MAR 82
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TEL NO 072 OF 02 MARCH 1982

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT NYERERE
TO CHIEF CONSTABLE OF ESSEX:

DEAR MR. BUNYARD,
ON MY OWN BEHALF, AND ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT
AND PEOPLE OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC, I WISH TO EXPRESS
APPRECIATION TO YOU PERSONALLY AND TO YOUR COLLEAGUES
FOR THE WORK WHICH WAS DONE TO BRING TO AN END THE
HI-JACKING OF THE TANZANIAN PLANE. YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES
SUCCEEDED SO WELL IN YOUR SKILLED ENDEAVOURS TO GET A
PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM THAT YOU ALMOST MADE IT
LOOK EASY. BUT WE KNOW THAT IT WAS A VERY DIFFICULT
OPERATION, AND WE CONGRATULATE YOU AT THE SAME TIME AS
WE THANK YOU. BECAUSE OF THE EFFORTS OF THE ESSEX POLICE
AND THOSE WHO WORKED WITH THEM IN THIS MATTER, NO LIVES
WERE LOST AND THE HI-JACKERS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED.

PLEASE CONVEY OUR APPRECIATION TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE
ESSEX POLICE FORCE SEMICOLON WITHOUT THEIR DISCIPLINE
AND THEIR READINESS TO MEET THIS EMERGENCY THE OUTCOME
MIGHT WELL HAVE BEEN VERY DIFFERENT.

YOURS SINCERELY,
JULIUS K. NYERERE

MOON

HI-JACKING: NON-BRITISH AIRCRAFT
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ADVANCE COPIES: HI-JACKING

11/11/82

PS
PS/SIR I GILMOUR LPS (\$) (S)
PS/MR HURD
PS/MR LUCE
PS/PUS
LORD BRIDGES
Mr BRAITHWAITE Adams

SEC OF STATE FOR TRADE)
MR N PEACE) DOT
MR R E CLARKE)
MR H J BLANKS) 1 VIC ST
MR LANGLEY)

UNDER SEC/GEOSG Bullard
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DIO CABINET OFFICE

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SIR R ARMSTRONG CABINET OFFICE

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Home Office
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RESIDENT CLERK [Mc. Huckle, EAD]

Debra R/MOS
Cab. Off.

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PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL NO: T 36/82
(see final copy of telegram)

ADVANCE COPY

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OO FCO DESKBY 021000Z

GRS 450

RESTRICTED

DESKBY 021000Z

FM DAR ES SALAAM 020735Z MAR 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TEL NO 071 OF 02 MARCH 1982

John I understand
The High Commissioner is
likely to ask whether he
can present the top copy
of this to the Prime Minister
in person. ? mind we shall
have to agree.
LM
2/3

MIPT

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT NYERERE
TO THE PRIME MINISTER

DEAR MRS. THATCHER,

I WRITE TO EXPRESS MY OWN VERY DEEP APPRECIATION

I WRITE TO EXPRESS MY OWN VERY DEEP APPRECIATION AND THANKS, AS WELL AS THAT OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF TANZANIA, TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND TO THE BRITISH POLICE FOR THE ACTIONS WHICH BROUGHT TO A SATISFACTORY END THE HI-JACKING OF THE TANZANIAN PLANE.

YOU WILL UNDERSTAND THE ANXIETY AND THE FEELING OF HELPLESSNESS HERE WHEN WE HEARD THAT THE PLANE HAD BEEN TAKEN OVER. WE REALISED THAT WE WERE ENTIRELY DEPENDENT UPON THE GOODWILL AND THE CAPACITY OF THOSE COUNTRIES WHERE THE HI-JACKERS CHOSE TO LAND. WHEN THERE SEEMED TO BE A POSSIBILITY THAT THEY WOULD FORCE THE PLANE TO COME TO BRITAIN, I THEREFORE CALLED SIR PETER MOON, YOUR HIGH COMMISSIONER HERE, TO ASK FOR BRITISH HELP. BEFORE I COULD DO SO HE ASSURED ME THAT BRITAIN WOULD BRING THE HI-JACK TO AN END. I DID APPRECIATE THIS IMMEDIATE GESTURE.

EVEN SO, HI-JACKERS ARE UNPREDICTABLE. I WOULD THEREFORE LIKE TO PAY A VERY GENUINE TRIBUTE TO MR. WILLIAM WHITELAW WHO TOOK OVERALL CHARGE OF THE OPERATION AND PREPARED FOR ANY EVENTUALITY. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO PAY A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO MR. ROBERT BUNYARD, THE CHIEF CONSTABLE OF THE ESSEX POLICE, AND ALL THOSE WHO WORKED UNDER HIS DIRECTION. IT WAS A TREMENDOUS ACHIEVEMENT TO PERSUADE THE HI-JACKERS TO RELEASE ALL THE HOSTAGES, AND FINALLY TO SURRENDER THEMSELVES WITHOUT DAMAGING THE PLANE. I REALISE THE STRAIN THAT MUST HAVE BEEN FELT BY ALL THOSE AT STANSTED AIRPORT THROUGHOUT THEIR LONG NEGOTIATIONS WITH THESE UNKNOWN BUT ARMED INDIVIDUALS.

I AM VERY HAPPY INDEED THAT IT WAS NOT NECESSARY TO TAKE ANY ACTION WHICH WOULD HAVE INVOLVED RISK TO THE LIFE OF ANY PERSON, BUT I DO NOT IN CONSEQUENCE UNDERESTIMATE THE DIFFICULTY OF WHAT WAS DONE. NOR AM I LACKING IN APPRECIATION OF THOSE WHO 'STOOD BY' IN CASE SOME OTHER KIND OF ACTION PROVED TO BE UNAVOIDABLE.

AS IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO THANK ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN THIS OPERATION I SHALL BE FURTHER INDEBTED TO YOU IF YOU WOULD CONVEY TO THE BRITISH PEOPLE THE GRATEFUL THANKS OF ALL TANZANIANS.

I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SEND MY WARM PERSONAL GREETINGS AND GOOD WISHES TO YOU. I AM TOLD THAT YOU

SEND MY WARM PERSONAL
YOU. I AM TOLD THAT YOU
~~STANSTED ENSURING THAT~~
~~ONLY SAY THAT I DO~~
~~OF YOUR PERSONAL CONCERN.~~

SINCERELY,
K. NYERERE

~~you~~ yourself spent a long time at Stansted
ensuring that everything went well,
and can only say that I do
appreciate this demonstration of
your personal concern

Yours sincerely
J.K. Nyerere

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SUBJECT



THE STATE HOUSE,
DAR ES SALAAM,
TANZANIA.

1st March, 1982.

Mrs. Margaret Thatcher,
The Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
Whitehall,
London, S.W.1.

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 36/82

Dear Mrs. Thatcher,

I write to express my own very deep appreciation and thanks, as well as that of the Government and People of Tanzania, to the British Government and to the British Police for the actions which brought to a satisfactory end the hi-jacking of the Tanzanian plane.

You will understand the anxiety and the feeling of helplessness here when we heard that the plane had been taken over. We realised that we were entirely dependent upon the goodwill and the capacity of those countries where the hi-jackers chose to land. When there seemed to be a possibility that they would force the plane to come to Britain, I therefore called Sir Peter Moon, your High Commissioner here, to ask for British help. Before I could do so he assured me that Britain would bring the hi-jack to an end. I did appreciate this immediate gesture.

Even so, hi-jackers are unpredictable. I would therefore like to pay a very genuine tribute to Mr. William Whitelaw who took overall charge of the operation and prepared for any eventuality. I would also like to pay a special tribute to Mr. Robert Bunyard, the Chief Constable of the Essex Police, and all those who worked under his direction. It was a tremendous achievement to persuade the hi-jackers to release all the hostages, and finally to surrender themselves without damaging the plane. I realise the strain that must have been felt by all those at Stansted Airport throughout their long negotiations with these unknown but armed individuals.

I am very happy indeed that it was not necessary to take any action which would have involved risk to the

life of any person, but I do not in consequence underestimate the difficulty of what was done. Nor am I lacking in appreciation of those who 'stood by' in case some other kind of action proved to be unavoidable.

As it is not possible for me to thank all those involved in this operation I shall be further indebted to you if you would convey to the British people the grateful thanks of all Tanzanians.

I take this opportunity to send my warm personal greetings and good wishes to you. I am told that you yourself spent a long time at Stansted ensuring that everything went well, and can only say that I do appreciate this demonstration of your personal concern.

Yours sincerely,

Julius K. Nyerere

Hijack

Prime Minister

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FM DAR ES SALAAM 281918Z FEB 82
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 067 OF 28 FEBRUARY 1982
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HIJACK.

AFTER BEING INFORMED THAT THE HIJACK WAS OVER, PRESIDENT
NYERERE ASKED ME TO CONVEY TO YOU HIS APPRECIATION OF ALL
THAT WE HAD DONE AND HIS CONGRATULATIONS ON THE SUCCESSFUL
OUTCOME.

MOON

HI-JACKING: NON-BRITISH AIRCRAFT

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