



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

4 October 1983

VISIT BY PRESIDENT MACHEL: PRESS RELEASE

Thank you for your letter of 26 September about the Mozambican suggestion that we should issue a joint communique at the end of the visit by the President of Mozambique later this month.

The Prime Minister has no enthusiasm for the device of a joint communique, but is willing on this occasion to meet the Mozambican request, provided of course that we can reach agreement on satisfactory wording. We would hope that there would be no need for the Prime Minister and the President to become involved in discussing the joint communique and assume that you will reach agreement on it with the Mozambicans in advance of the talks at No. 10. The text could then be formally agreed between the President and the Prime Minister.

A. J. COLES

Roger Bone, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

PRIME MINISTER

VISIT OF PRESIDENT OF MOZAMBIQUE

The Mozambiquans are pressing for a joint communique to be issued at the end of their visit.

This is not our normal practice, and there are risks - they may haggle about the wording endlessly.

But the advice is that we should meet their request - and there will of course be no question of you being involved in the haggling.

Agree that we should accept the Mozambiquan request?

A.S.C. provided we
can agree ms

CC 120



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

26 September 1983

ABC or
 This seems likely
 to land us with
 President Machel's text.

I felt you ought to see
 before it was put to the PM.

Your Uncle -

LM
 27/9

Visit by President Machel: Press Release

As you know, President Machel of Mozambique is to visit this country from 19 - 21 October, and is to have lunch with The Queen on 19 October and talks and lunch with the Prime Minister on 20 October.

The Mozambicans have asked that we should agree to a joint communique to be issued at the end of the visit. Our Ambassador in Maputo has supported this request.

It is not our normal practice to issue joint communiques. We nevertheless see some advantage in agreeing to do so on this occasion. It would enable us to ensure that the Mozambicans do not themselves unilaterally release a distorted version of the proceedings to the press. We could also use it to draw attention to positive moves in the aid field which we hope to announce in the course of the visit.

A short draft text would be provided to President Machel's party on arrival on 19 October, be formally agreed following the talks between the President and the Prime Minister, and released either on Friday, 21 October or the following Monday.

Would you let me know whether this proposal is acceptable?

(R B Bone)
 Private Secretary

W Rickett Esq
 10 Downing Street

Mozambique Visit of Pres. Machel June 81

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

London, 8/11/81

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