cc:- FCO

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. 17380

Dear Mr President,

2. 4. 80

Thank you for your letter of the 17 March about Rhodesia. It was kind of you to express your appreciation in this way.

I am confident that we shall see a smooth and peaceful transition to independence, and that the new Zimbabwe will enjoy a stable and prosperous future. I am very pleased that the Commonwealth has once again demonstrated its effectiveness as a force for good in the world.

I share your hope that Zimbabwe will become an example of racial harmony in Southern Africa. The settlement of the Rhodesian question has demonstrated that it is possible to find negotiated solutions to the most intractable problems.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Thatcher

His Excellency Dr Hilla Limann