

CONFIDENTIAL

File TWP



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

OF 16.8.79

9 August 1979

RHODESIA

I believe the Prime Minister mentioned to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary orally in Lusaka a conversation which she had had with Sir Seretse Khama at the reception by President Moi of Kenya on 7 August. This letter records the exchange.

Sir Seretse Khama advised the Prime Minister "not to be taken in by the politeness of the African". President Khama had gone on to urge the Prime Minister to "work on" President Kaunda. He said that President Nyerere, President Machel and he himself "wanted out" of their commitments to the Patriotic Front; but that it would be necessary for the Prime Minister to work on Kenneth Kaunda.

The Prime Minister deduced from this conversation that President Kaunda was likely to be the least reliable of the Front Line Presidents in bringing pressure to bear on the Patriotic Front to cease hostilities in the event of an agreement on a Constitution for Rhodesia. I should be grateful for any comments which you may have.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Martin Vile (Cabinet Office).

**B. G. CARTLEDGE**

J.S. Wall, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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