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Subject Copy

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. Tunc / 79

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FM FCO 131632Z OCT 79

Rhodesia
S+ P+8

TO FLASH DAR ES SALAAM

TELEGRAM NUMBER 332 OF 13 OCTOBER

INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON, LUSAKA, LUANDA PRIORITY UKMIS NEW YORK,
RHODESIA CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE.

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO
PRESIDENT NYERERE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER.

BEGINS

DEAR JULIUS

I HAVE SEEN SIR PETER MOON'S ACCOUNT OF HIS TALK WITH YOU ON
10 OCTOBER AND I AM REALLY MOST GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR FINDING TIME TO
DISCUSS THESE MATTERS WITH HIM. I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU MY
ASSESSMENT OF THE POSITION WE HAVE NOW REACHED IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL
CONFERENCE.

THE INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTION WHICH WE HAVE PUT FORWARD HAS
IN OUR VIEW GONE A VERY LONG WAY TO MEET THE PATRIOTIC FRONT'S
REQUIREMENTS. IT HAS THEREFORE BEEN NO EASY TASK TO SECURE THE
SALISBURY DELEGATION'S ACCEPTANCE OF IT. YOU WILL HAVE SEEN THE
REACTIONS OF MR IAN SMITH. THAT CONSTITUTION PROVIDES,
INDISPUTABLY, FOR GENUINE MAJORITY RULE.

IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS, BOTH SIDES HAVE SHOWN A WILLINGNESS TO
COMPROMISE, AND WE ARE APPRECIATIVE OF THAT. BUT WE HAVE NOW BEEN
ENGAGED IN FIVE WEEKS OF INTENSIVE NEGOTIATION. WE HAVE THOROUGHLY
EXAMINED ALL THE ISSUES AND WE HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE CONSTITUTION
WE HAVE PUT FORWARD IS THE ONLY BASIS ON WHICH AGREEMENT IS
POSSIBLE. WE CANNOT MAKE FURTHER CHANGES AT THIS STAGE. AND WE HAVE
MADE CLEAR FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE CONFERENCE IT IS OPEN TO
BOTH DELEGATIONS TO MAKE THEIR AGREEMENT TO THE INDEPENDENCE
CONSTITUTION CONDITIONAL ON AGREEMENT ON THE PRE-INDEPENDENCE
ARRANGEMENTS.

AS YOU SUGGESTED, WE HAVE TRIED TO HELP THE PATRIOTIC FRONT OVER
THE QUESTION OF LAND. WE RECOGNISE THE VERY GREAT IMPORTANCE
OF THIS PROBLEM TO BOTH SIDES. BUT THE INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTION
DOES MAKE FULLY ADEQUATE PROVISION FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO ACQUIRE
LAND FOR SETTLEMENT. WHAT IT ALSO DOES IS TO PROVIDE FOR ADEQUATE
COMPENSATION, AND THAT IS WHAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT ARE AT PRESENT
UNABLE TO ACCEPT. PETER CARRINGTON MADE A STATEMENT IN THE
CONFERENCE ON 11 OCTOBER WHICH WAS DESIGNED TO HELP THEM EVEN OVER

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/ THIS HURDLE.

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THIS HURDLE. HE PROMISED THAT WE WOULD HELP, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF OUR FINANCIAL RESOURCES, WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR LAND SETTLEMENT SCHEMES AND CAPITAL AID FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND INFRASTRUCTURE. WE SHALL ALSO BE READY TO HELP THE NEW GOVERNMENT OBTAIN INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR THESE AND OTHER PURPOSES.

IF THERE IS AGREEMENT ON THE INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTION, WE SHALL BE ABLE TO MOVE ON TO DISCUSS WITH BOTH DELEGATIONS THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE INTERIM PERIOD BEFORE INDEPENDENCE, INCLUDING ESPECIALLY ELECTIONS SUPERVISED UNDER OUR AUTHORITY - AS WE AGREED AT LUSAKA - AND THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR A CEASEFIRE. THIS WILL OFFER FURTHER HOPE TO THE PEOPLE OF RHODESIA AND OF THE NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE MAKING PROGRESS, THAT RHODESIA WILL COME TO INDEPENDENCE ON THE BASIS OF GENUINE MAJORITY RULE AND THAT THE PARTIES WILL BE PREPARED TO COMPETE FOR POWER BY POLITICAL MEANS.

THE SALISBURY DELEGATION HAVE, AS YOU KNOW, ACCEPTED THE CONSTITUTION. THEY HAVE ALSO STATED THEIR READINESS TO ACCEPT ELECTIONS SUPERVISED UNDER OUR AUTHORITY. WE ARE STILL WAITING FOR THE PATRIOTIC FRONT'S ACCEPTANCE. I HOPE VERY MUCH THAT WE CAN COUNT ON YOUR SUPPORT AND INFLUENCE TO BRING THESE NEGOTIATIONS TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION.

ENDS

2. YOU SHOULD INFORM YOUR AMERICAN COLLEAGUE OF THE ACTION WHICH YOU HAVE TAKEN. SIMILAR, THOUGH NOT IDENTICAL MESSAGES, ARE BEING SENT TO MACHEL, TOLBERT, SERETSE KHAMA AND SHAGARI. LUANDA IS BEING INSTRUCTED TO SPEAK ON THESE LINES TO THE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT.

CARRINGTON

F I L E S

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