

GR 275
UNCLASSIFIED
FM LUSAKA 160845Z
TO ROUTINE FCO
TEL NO. 137 OF 16 APRIL 1981
REPEATED TO ROUTINE NEW DELHI.

IMMIGRATION POLICY.

1. IN A STRONGLY WORDED EDITORIAL ON MRS THATCHER'S VISIT TO INDIA THE TIMES OF ZAMBIA TODAY SAYS "WE EXPECTED MRS THATCHER TO CANCEL HER INDIAN TRIP AS IT CAME AT A TIME HER GOVERNMENT WAS UNDER FIRE FOR ITS HANDLING OF RACIAL RIOTS IN LONDON AND ITS PROPOSED LEGISLATION ON BRITISH NATIONALITY". "THERE ARE LAWS WHICH PROVIDE FOR GOOD RACE RELATIONS IN BRITAIN BUT IT APPEARS THAT THE PRESENT CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT IS NOT KEEN TO APPLY THEM. BY INTRODUCING THREE TYPES OF BRITISH CITIZENSHIP, MRS THATCHER IS IN EFFECT IMPLEMENTING POWELLISM AND THE OBJECTIVES OF THAT NAZI-TYPE PARTY, THE NATIONAL FRONT. IT IS A BETRAYAL OF WHAT THE COMMONWEALTH IS ALL ABOUT FOR BRITAIN, WHICH IS SUPPOSED TO BE THE TITULAR HEAD OF THE ORGANISATION, TO FOLLOW SOUTH AFRICA'S ABOMINABLE APARTHEID SYSTEM".

2. THE EDITORIAL CALLS ON THE HOUSE OF COMMONS TO "THROW OUT THIS PIECE OF RACIAL THATCHERISM" AND PREDICTS THAT IF THE BILL GOES THROUGH "THE SPARKS MUST FLY AT THE COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE IN SEPTEMBER". REFERRING TO THE 5,000 BRITISH PASSPORT HOLDERS IN ZAMBIA AFFECTED BY THE LEGISLATION IT CONCLUDES: "MRS THATCHER WOULD BE THE FIRST TO CONDEMN ZAMBIA IF OUR GOVERNMENT DECIDED TO CHANGE THE STATUS OF ZAMBIAN CITIZENS TO SEGREGATE BETWEEN THOSE LIVING IN BRITAIN OR THOSE OF NOT NATIVE ORIGIN AND ZAMBIANS AT HOME".

JOHNSON.
STANDARD
CAFJ
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THIS TELEGRAM
WAS NOT
ADVANCED