



Original - GJK  
cfo

10 DOWNING STREET

11th September 1979

Dear Nicholas,

Thank you for your letter of 15th August with which you enclosed a copy of a letter dated 9th August which you had received from your constituent Mr J G Stanley.

If Rhodesia is to have a secure future as we all wish, it is essential that there should be a settlement capable of winning wide international recognition. The agreement we reached at the Commonwealth meeting in Lusaka represents a helpful step forward. We have established a new basis for progress towards a peaceful solution for Rhodesia, and it is significant that we have the unanimous acceptance of the Commonwealth - including three of the Front Line States - that it must be a major objective to bring about a cessation of hostilities and an end to sanctions as part of the process of achieving a lasting settlement.

I do not accept that this agreement amounts to an "about face" on the part of the Government. The Conservative Party manifesto made it clear that, if elected, we would consider it our duty to make every effort to achieve international recognition for Rhodesia, while in my speech in the House on 25th July I made it clear that some constitutional change would be required. I also said that our proposals would be put to all the parties. New elections would follow naturally from agreement at the Constitutional Conference.

I believe that we now have a prospect of ending the present hostilities with the tragic loss of life they involve. The way ahead will not be easy but I am encouraged that those concerned have accepted our invitation to the Constitutional Conference which opened in London yesterday.

Yours sincerely  
Nicholas

Nicholas Winterton Esq MP

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