



AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION · LONDON

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PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 51/80

Acting
THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

Subject copy filed on:- Rhodesia Situation Pt 16.

10 March 1980

for Paul
Rennie Rennie (2)

Dear Mr Alexander,

I have been asked by the Australian Prime Minister, the Rt Hon. Malcolm Fraser, to convey the attached text of a letter of 7 March from him to your Prime Minister, the Rt Hon. Margaret Thatcher.

I should be grateful if you could bring this letter to Mrs Thatcher's attention as soon as possible. I shall pass the original to you when it arrives.

Yours sincerely,

R. Fernandez

(R.R. Fernandez)

Mr Michael Alexander,
Private Secretary (Overseas Affairs)
to the Prime Minister,
Prime Minister's Office,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON SW1.

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Paul 10/3

Text of a Letter of 7 March from the
Prime Minister of Australia, the Rt Hon.
Malcolm Fraser, to the Rt Hon. Margaret
Thatcher.

Begins:

My dear Margaret,

I send you warm congratulations on the successful holding of the elections in Rhodesia, which brought to fruition the process initiated at Lusaka.

The way to the present achievement was not always smooth, but the determination and skill of your Government and officials have resulted in this great act of service to the people of Rhodesia, who for the first time have had the opportunity to choose their leaders in a democratic way. I am as pleased as you must be that there was a consensus among observers that, despite the very difficult circumstances, the elections were generally free and fair and permitted a genuine act of free choice by the overwhelming majority of the electorate.

The clear victory achieved by Mr Mugabe in the elections, followed by his evident wish to form a national government, including representatives of the Rhodesian Front, opens the way for stable government. His actions since the election, particularly his statesmanlike address to the nation on 4 March, give reason for confidence that the country will advance in peace and prosperity to the advantage of all its people.

I believe there are good prospects for us to establish sound relations with the new Zimbabwe Government.

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm Fraser

Ends.

10 March 1980.

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Subject copy
Rhodesia, Srt,
PE 16



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PRIME MINISTER

CANBERRA

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I believe there are good prospects for us to establish sound relations with the new Zimbabwe Government.

Yours sincerely,

(Malcolm Fraser)

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
Prime Minister of Great Britain,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON.