

ADVANCE - No. 10 D.S.

CONFIDENTIAL

GR 230
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FM HARARE 011354Z DEC 82
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 694 OF 1 DECEMBER.
INFO ROUTINE PRETORIA, WASHINGTON.

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MY TELNO 686 : IAN SMITH.

1. FOLLOWING PUBLICATION BY THE HERALD YESTERDAY OF MR TOWNEND'S PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION OF 25 NOVEMBER AND ITS ANSWER, THE HERALD PUBLISHED A DISOBLIGING EDITORIAL TODAY (TEXT IN MIFT). THIS WELL REFLECTS ZIMBABWEAN SENSITIVITY TO CRITICISM ARISING FROM THE TORTURE ALLEGATIONS. THOUGH THE PHRASEOLOGY IS THE EDITOR'S PERSONAL STYLE, IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT HE WOULD PRINT SOMETHING ON THIS SUBJECT WITHOUT FIRST CLEARING HIS LINES WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

2. BUT WE HAVE A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE INDICATION OF MUGABE'S OWN ATTITUDE. I UNDERSTAND THERE WAS PPESSURE FROM SOME MINISTERS AT YESTERDAY'S CABINET MEETING TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST (IE DETAIN) SMITH BECAUSE OF THE LATTER'S REPORTED STATEMENTS IN THE US. HOWEVER MUGABE RESISTED THE PRESSURE ON THE GROUNDS THAT SUCH ACTION WOULD APPEAR VINDICTIVE AND UNDERMINE THE POLICY OF RECONCILIATION TO WHICH MUGABE REMAINS FIRMLY ATTACHED. MUGABE APPARENTLY ALSO ARGUED THAT SMITH'S VIEWS WERE UNREPRESENTATIVE OF THE WHITE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE AND THAT TO DETAIN HIM WOULD BE SEEN AS A DRASTIC ANTI-WHITE MOVE. IN THIS CONNECTION IT IS WORTH MENTIONING THAT LANDAU, THE WHITE DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE, ISSUED A STATEMENT HERE LAST WEEK ECHOING THE ONE BY ANDERSEN REPORTED IN OUR TELNO 682. LANDAU ADDED THAT MANY BUSINESS PEOPLE HAD EXPRESSED TO HIM THEIR DISAPPROVAL OF SMITH'S STATEMENTS.

BYATT

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TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 695 OF 01 DECEMBER
INFO ROUTINE PRETORIA AND WASHINGTON.

ADVANCE

No 10 D.S.

MY I P T: I.D.SMITH

1. TODAY'S EDITION OF THE HERALD CARRIES THE FOLLOWING EDITORIAL
UNDER THE HEADLINE 'LEAVE US ALONE'

BEGINS

MRS THATCHER HAS A RIGHT, AS ANYBODY ELSE IN THE WORLD HAS,
TO MEET AND TALK TO ANY ZIMBABWEAN SHE LIKES. INDEED, AS THE
FRIEND OF ZIMBABWE THAT SHE CLAIMS TO BE, SHE SHOULD BE ABLE TO
COMMUNICATE FREELY ANY STRONGLY HELD VIEWS ABOUT THIS COUNTRY
TO OUR PRIME MINISTER IN A MANNER WORTHY OF A FRIEND.

HOWEVER, TO USE THE DISCREDITED GRUMBLINGS OF IAN SMITH
AS A BASIS FOR A HOUSE OF COMMONS STATEMENT IS MOST UNFORTUNATE.
IT APPEARS TO US THAT ZIMBABWE'S AFFAIRS ARE BECOMING EVERYBODY'S
BUSINESS IN THE WORLD.

WE ARE AWARE THAT WITH ALL THE WALKERS AND SMITHS FLYING TO
ENGLAND TO REPORT ON THE SO-CALLED "DETERIORATING SITUATION" IN
ZIMBABWE, THE TEMPTATION TO INTERFERE IN OUR AFFAIRS IS GREAT.
ON OUR PART WE MUST REMIND THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER THAT THIS
COUNTRY IS NO LONGER A COLONY AND THEREFORE SHE HAS NO RIGHT TO
INTERFERE IN ITS INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

THE BLOOD-IS-THICKER-THAN-WATER ATTITUDE IS CONTRARY TO OUR
NATIONAL POLICY OF NON-RACIALISM, RECONCILIATION, AND HARMONY
AMONG OUR CITIZENS. IT IS QUITE OBVIOUS THAT WHAT IS BEING COM-
PLAINED ABOUT IS NOT HUMAN RIGHTS BUT WHITE RIGHTS.

ACCORDING TO THIS VIEW ANY ARREST OF A WHITE PERSON IS A
SIGN OF SOCIO-POLITICAL DETERIORATION IN THIS COUNTRY. OUR COURTS
OF LAW ARE BUSY WITH SEVERAL CASES INVOLVING WHITES COMING BEFORE
THEM. YET READING THE REPORTS IN THE FOREIGN PRESS ONE GETS A
TOTALLY DIFFERENT PICTURE OF THE REALITY. LEAVE US ALONE (EXCLAM).

ENDS

BYATT

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GR 65
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FM HARARE 021034Z DEC 82
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 697 OF 2 DECEMBER
INFO ROUTINE PRETORIA, WASHINGTON.

MY TELNO 694 : IAN SMITH.

1. SMITH'S PASSPORT WAS WITHDRAWN THIS MORNING ON THE ORDERS OF THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS. THE PRESS ALREADY HAVE THE STORY.

2. WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THIS IS A PRIVATE INITIATIVE BY USHEWOKUNZE, BUT IN THE LIGHT OF PARA 2 OF MY TUR THIS SEEMS LIKELY.

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