



*file Mr  
Zimbabwe.*

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

30 November 1982

ZIMBABWE

The Prime Minister has seen your letter of 24 November setting out the position on our military aid to Zimbabwe. Mrs. Thatcher has also seen Brian Fall's letter of 26 November conveying the views of the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary on this matter.

The Prime Minister agrees (with some reluctance) that 12 extra personnel should be provided so that BMATT can complete its training of Army Instructors by June next year).

She also agrees that now is not the time to provide SAS training or RAF technical personnel.

The Prime Minister notes that Mr. Pym is still considering Mr. Nott's suggestion that we should not in present circumstances proceed with the sale of six RAF Hunter aircraft and ground equipment.

Finally, the Prime Minister hopes that the general review of our policy towards Zimbabwe can be carried out as quickly as possible.

I am copying this letter to Brian Fall (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

A.J. COLES

Richard Mottram, Esq.,  
Ministry of Defence.

*SPZ*



PRIME MINISTER

ZIMBABWE

Your questions underneath.

The latest estimate is that the Air Force detainees will be brought to trial in February/March.

When Mr. Nott raised with Mr. Mugabe the question of the torture allegations, Mugabe took the line that so far as he was aware, there had been no mistreatment. But if he was mis-informed, this was sure to be established when the cases came to court. When Vice-President Bush raised the matter with him more recently, Mr. Mugabe stressed that the judicial process would take its course and if the courts found that statements had been extracted by torture, they would rule them inadmissible.

Incidentally, I understand that Mr. Stuttaford, in a private court action, obtained compensation of \$18,000 for mistreatment while in prison.

Are you prepared to agree, as the Defence Secretary and the Foreign Secretary suggest, that 12 extra personnel are provided to BMATT so that the training of Zimbabwe National Army instructors can be completed by June 1983?

*Reluctantly - yes A.F.C.  
mf*

29 November 1982



Prime Minister

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Please see Mr. Nott's views (attached).

Agree that

(a) 12 extra personnel should be provided to BMATT

(b) we should not provide SAS training or RAF technical personnel

(c) we should carry out the general

Don John, review you have requested as quickly as possible? Agreed  
A.F.C. 26/11

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

26 November 1982

When are the Air Force deliveries coming to total? what. ①  
If you say that to have any effect?

Mr Pym has seen Richard Mottram's letter to me of 24 November about outstanding proposals for military sales and assistance to Zimbabwe.

Mr Pym endorses Mr Nott's comments about the importance of BMATT's training programme, both for internal security within Zimbabwe and for the morale of the white community. He fully supports Mr Nott's recommendation that 12 extra personnel should be provided so that BMATT can complete the intensive training of army instructors by June next year, and hopes that this can go ahead without delay. (This will not in any way prejudice the general review of policy on which we shall be submitting papers shortly: the provision of extra personnel now would actually make it easier for us to make substantial reductions thereafter if that is what is decided.)

Pending the general review, Mr Pym agrees with Mr Nott's conclusion that now is not the time to agree to provide SAS training or RAF technical personnel.

Mr Pym is still considering Mr Nott's suggestion that we should not in present circumstances proceed with the arrangements for the sale of 6 RAF Hunter aircraft and ground equipment on commercial terms. Mr Pym appreciates Mr Nott's concern about possible domestic criticism, but has asked to see an analysis of the implications of such a decision for our political and commercial interests in Zimbabwe. We shall give you our views very soon.

I am sending copies of this letter to Richard Mottram (Ministry of Defence) and to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

(B J P Fall)  
Private Secretary

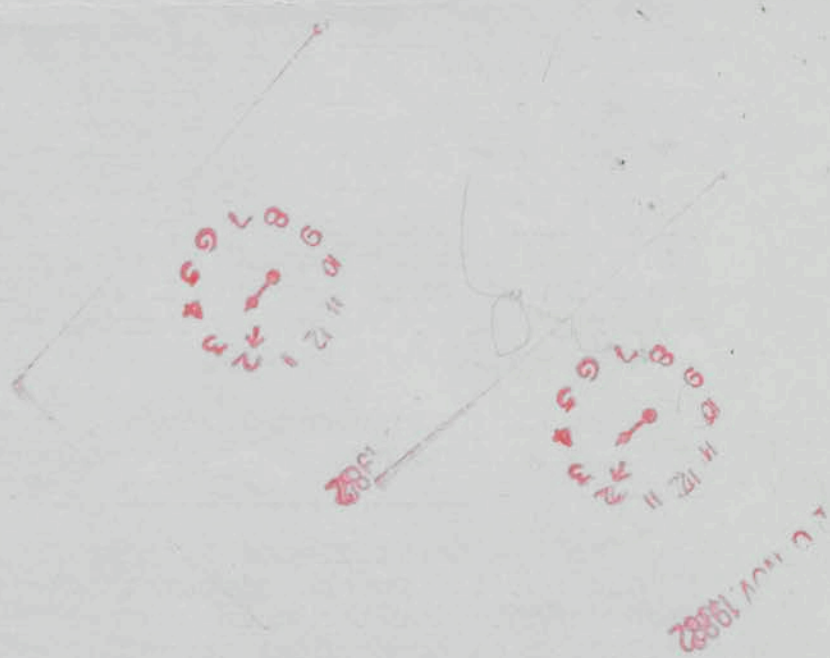
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