

SAK

FBIS 130

SMITH: UK APPEARS TO BE DEPARTING FROM UK-U.S. PROPOSALS

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(TEXT) THE PRIME MINISTER, MR IAN SMITH, HAS REPLIED TO A STATEMENT BY THE BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY THAT THE FIVE POINTS OF HIS AGREEMENT WITH DR KISSINGER ARE OPEN TO NEGOTIATION. HERE IS THE TEXT OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT:

MY ATTENTION HAS BEEN DRAWN TO PRESS REPORTS OF REMARKS MADE BY THE BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY, MR ANTHONY CROSLAND, AT THE UNITED NATIONS YESTERDAY. IN PARTICULAR, HIS REFERENCE TO THE SO-CALLED FIVE POINTS BEING OPEN TO NEGOTIATION APPEARS TO INDICATE THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT ARE DEPARTING FROM THE TERMS OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS WHICH WERE PUT TO ME IN PRETORIA ON THE 19TH OF SEPTEMBER BY DR KISSINGER.

IN MY STATEMENT OF 24 SEPTEMBER I READ OUT THE FIVE POINTS IN THE EXACT WORDS WHICH THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT ASKED ME TO USE. I WAS INFORMED BY DR KISSINGER THAT THE PROPOSALS HAD BEEN DRAWN UP IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND HAD BEEN AGREED BY THE BLACK PRESIDENTS WHOM HE HAD CONSULTED. FOR THAT REASON, THE PROPOSALS WERE PRESENTED AS A PACKAGE DEAL WHICH I WOULD HAVE TO ACCEPT OR REJECT IN ITS ENTIRETY, AND I WAS ASSURED THAT IF I ACCEPTED IT NO NEW DEMANDS WOULD BE RAISED.

IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT I MADE MY ACCEPTANCE CONDITIONAL NOT ONLY ON THE LIFTING OF SANCTIONS AND A CESSATION OF TERRORISM, BUT ALSO ON THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSALS BY THE OTHER PARTIES CONCERNED.

MY STATEMENT WAS WELCOMED BY THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS AND AT NO TIME HAVE I HAD ANY INDICATION THAT THEY DISAGREED WITH ANY PART OF IT. I WISH TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT MY COLLEAGUES AND I WILL BE GOING TO THE FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE WITH THE POSITIVE AIM OF GETTING THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED IN TERMS OF THE ANGO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS WHICH I ACCEPTED. IT IS IN THE INTERESTS OF ALL RHODESIANS, BLACK AND WHITE, THAT THIS SHOULD BE ACHIEVED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. I HOPE, THEREFORE, THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL NOT WASTE TIME ON EXTRANEIOUS MATTERS WHICH FALL OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF THE AGREED PROPOSALS.

6 OCT 2001Z RLL/GFE