

Entrepre outline for Embarkation paper
a S.T.
18-12-79

RHODESIA

Now that the British Governor, Lord Soames, has assumed full powers Rhodesia has returned to lawful government. Rhodesia is a British responsibility and we are discharging our responsibilities. Her Majesty's Government would find it extremely difficult to accept that any of our friends and allies should continue to apply sanctions against Rhodesia under a British Governor.

Far from hindering the negotiations, action in relation to sanctions or the announcement of it is likely to have a positive effect in pushing the Patriotic Front towards a settlement. We have delivered a letter to the President of the UN Security Council informing him that a British Governor has taken over in Salisbury we have lifted sanctions. The Portuguese delegation have been actively helpful in urging restraint among the non-aligned. We appreciate this help.

Now that Rhodesia has returned to lawful government we hope and expect that the Portuguese Government will move to normalise their relations with Rhodesia. All governments which lift sanctions will be entitled to apply for consular representation in Salisbury and subject to consultation with the Governor it should be possible to arrange this. This will no doubt be a matter of considerable importance to countries like Portugal which have significant local communities and nationals to represent in Salisbury.

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