

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

September 23, 1976

No. 467

REMARKS BY
THE HONORABLE JAMES CALLAGHAN
PRIME MINISTER
AND
THE HONORABLE HENRY A. KISSINGER
SECRETARY OF STATE
BEFORE THEIR MEETING
LONDON, ENGLAND
SEPTEMBER 23, 1976

PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN: I want to welcome Dr. Kissinger here after his very arduous journey. I want to emphasize that the British and the American Governments have a common perception that what is required in Rhodesia, namely the acceptance of the principles of majority rule; elections within two years in accordance with the statement I made on March 22 and in which Dr. Kissinger has emphasized that he has been working on during the last few days in Africa. I am naturally looking forward with great eagerness to hear an account of Dr. Kissinger's visit, but I suppose both of us are really waiting to hear what will come from the Rhodesian authorities tomorrow. The solution will have to come out of Africa and it is to Africa that we look and to the Africans and the Europeans in Rhodesia to provide that solution. I think that is all I wish to say now. Henry, do you want to add anything?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I agree we have been working within the framework of the proposal made by the Prime Minister, that a common perception of the issues and with the conviction that the final solution has to be an African solution worked out on the spot between the Europeans and the Africans involved.

QUESTION: Dr. Kissinger, there is no sort of firm news from Salisbury tonight. I assume you have been keeping in touch with the hopeful noises that have been coming out of there. Do you think that perhaps you have pulled it off once again?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I am hopeful that we will proceed, but I do not want to say that any one person pulled it off. We worked very closely with the British Government and, after all, on a British plan.

QUESTION: Have you received any leaks from the caucus meeting in Salisbury?

For further information contact:

-2-

PR 467

SECRETARY KISSINGER: We have not received any leaks from the caucus meeting, but I think matters have gone so far that it would be surprising if they turned it down.

QUESTION: So you are hopeful that when you are talking about pulling it off, you have indeed pulled it off, Dr. Kissinger?

PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN: Let me intervene here for a moment. What Dr. Kissinger has constantly said to me over the last few days is that he does not wish this to be regarded as a personal matter. He probably would want to say that himself, but it should come from me because he has been working within the personal framework of a common plan. But I want to emphasize once again that it is up to the Rhodesian authorities to say whether they themselves are willing to put forward this plan and whether they themselves are willing to enter into negotiations with the Africans to settle the matter there, and then we can proceed from that point onwards.

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I agree.

QUESTION: Are you ready if necessary for a conference here in London to sort out the details.

PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN: I think they have got to get down first of all to settle any interim government that they have got to get into with the Africans. That is the question.

Thank you, gentlemen.

* * * * *