AMERIMP.

Private

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28th January, 1980

Thank you for your letter of 28th January.

Do please keep me informed.

IAN GOW

The Right Honourable Julian Amery, M.P. House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1



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24th January, 1980.

Until today my friends in Salisbury have seemed reasonably relaxed not about the situation but about the good will of Government House and the FCO.

This morning for the first time I have learned of considerable disquiet among the service chiefs and officials over the tolerance being shows to the Mugabe Party who stillhhove some 4000 armed guerillas in the field. They are increasingly concerned that our policy is not so much to enforce the Lancaster House Agreement strictly as to have a successful public relations exercise by claiming that they have got all parties to the polls regardless of their conduct in the run up to the election and in the election itself.

This is only the first serious criticism of Government House that I have encountered and I am not at this stage proposing to do anything about it beyond alerting those who think as I do. I have not got enough hard information to trouble Peter C_grrington or Margaret Thatcher direct but I thought I should perhaps let you know of what I heard today.

Julian America

Ian Gow, Esq., M.P.