

State Dinner in Honor of President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, 5/17/78

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 17, 1978

OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY'S PRESS SECRETARY

Working Dinner Honoring President Kenneth Kaunda,
President of Zambia

The Dinner will be held at 8 p.m. in the State Dining Room. Approximately 35 guests will be seated at an oblong table in the center of the room. The table will be decorated with the vermeil knights from the White House silver collection, which will be banked with greenery.

The following menu will be served:

Gazpacho Soup
Croutons

Sauteed Supreme of Pompano
Lemon Sauce

Selection of Fresh Vegetables

Watercress and Mushroom Salad
Trappist Cheese

Raspberry Sherbet Ring
Blueberry Melba Cookies

After dessert, a brief program will be presented by Mel Downs of Washington, D.C., a singer and writer of folk songs. Mr. Downs will present several selections inspired by President Kaunda's fondness for folk songs, including "Marya," a song of the West; "Shenandoah," the classic American ballad based on an old sea chanty; and "Amazing Grace," originally a Negro spiritual and now a standard in the hymnals of many religious denominations.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 17, 1978

Office of the First Lady's Press Secretary

Working Dinner
Honoring
President Kaunda
May 17, 1978

Press Advisory:

7:20 p.m. Pickup in West Wing Press Office
for arrival, North Portico

OPEN

8:45 p.m. Pick up in West Wing for coverage
of toasts in State Dining Room.

RESTRICTED

DINNER - Wednesday, May 17, 1978 at 7:30 p.m.

SW gate
TA

The President

Zambian party

H.E. Dr. Kenneth D. Kaunda (President of Zambia)

The Hon. R. C. Kamanga

The Hon. J. M. Mwanakatwe

The Hon. A. B. Chikwanda

The Hon. Dr. S. G. Mwale

The Hon. Gen. Kingsley Chinkuli

Mr. M. C. Chona

Mr. D. C. Mulaisho

Mr. J. C. Punabantu

H.E. Putteho M. Ngonda (Ambassador of Zambia)

Mr. E. I. L. Willima

Mr. H. M. Nzunga

Aaron, Mr. David

Butcher, Mrs. Goler (no card)

Christopher, Mr. Warren

Clark, Senator Richard

Clay, Rep. William

Collins, Rep. (Mrs) Cardiss

Cooper, Mr. Richard N.

Diggs, Rep. Charles C., Jr.

Gilligan, Mr. John J.

Hayakawa, Senator S. I.

Long, Rep. Clarence D.

Low, Amb. Stephen

McHenry, Amb. Donald F.

Mitchell, Rep. Parren J.

Mondale, The Vice President

Moose, Mr. Richard M., Jr.

Newsom, Mr. David

Post, Mr. Richard St. F.

Solarz, Rep. Stephen J.

Solomon, Mr. Anthony M. (no card)

Thornton, Mr. Thomas

Vance, The Secretary of State

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 17, 1978

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE

EXCHANGE OF TOASTS

BETWEEN

THE PRESIDENT

AND

HIS EXCELLENCY DR. KENNETH D. KAUNDA
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

THE STATE FLOOR

9:10 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: President Kaunda and distinguished guests from Zambia, my own American friends who are ashamed of their President because he can't perform as well as you -- (laughter) -- we are delighted to have you all here tonight to welcome to the White House a great leader.

Many of you didn't recognize the language of the prayer that was given by our guest. It was Presbyterian. (Laughter) His father was a pastor, a minister in the Church of Scotland.

I think that it is obvious to all of us that our guest has very deep feelings, not only about religion, but about humanity, about freedom, about individuality, equality, democracy, self-expression, the very same characteristics of life that have made our own nation great and have made the nation of Zambia great.

Living in this house is sometimes a sobering experience because you look back over many years and see the leaders who have been here. We revere George Washington because he had such great courage and tenacity and the confidence of his own people, that he was the father of our country, and it is a very exciting thing to know that we have, in effect, the George Washington of Zambia here with us tonight; a man who had the confidence of his people and who enjoys a relationship with the people of Zambia that is mutually respectful and filled with confidence.

I have benefited already from my correspondence with President Kaunda. I have sought advice because I know what kind of man he is. I know the leadership that he shows in Southern Africa and indeed throughout that continent and the world. He is a man whose integrity has never been challenged, never been doubted. And he is a man who in a practical way can implement his deep feelings that I have just described for the benefit of his own people.

I have had a chance to discuss with him today some of the most difficult questions that face the modern world, how to bring into being in the southern part of a troubled continent, among people who are not blessed as are those in Zambia with those freedoms and basic human rights and how his leadership might be mirrored in me and other leaders who look to him for guidance; in letting the people of Rhodesia, Namibia, South Africa, ultimately enjoy the privileges of

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shaping their own government's policies and of determining their own future through democratic processes based on majority rule and based on the fact that each person should have a vote that is equal to the vote of any other person in that country.

This generous strength and courage is combined with a gentleness and a sensitivity that makes President Kaunda be outstanding in the minds and in the opinions of those who know him and know his good influence.

He was here in this room three years ago. He made a short talk, toast, that was highly embarrassing to the Americans who were his hosts. Some criticized him for his frankness, and even accused him of being impolite. But the time that has passed since, and our own experience, has shown to me and my Administration and my predecessors here that had we listened to him closely and had the policies of our own government been shaped by him and his advice toward Africa, we could have avoided many serious mistakes, much delay and expedited the achievements which we all still await and pursue with eagerness.

We are indeed fortunate to have statesmen like him come to our country to give us advice and to inspire us with their own past achievements and with their own dreams and commitments for the future.

Our nations are tied together with a spirit not only of friendship and mutual respect, but also now with a common purpose and common policies, common concerns and shared communications and mutual support.

Zambia's policy has not changed. But the policy of our own country has changed. I think the investment that we are now placing in Africa with interest and study will pay rich dividends for our nation in the future and for world peace and for the achievement of those who have been oppressed too long.

We have been discussing tonight some of the economic concerns that Zambia has. One of their major export items is copper. The copper prices have been severely depressed for the last two or three years. We stand with Zambia, recognizing that their future, their economic strength, is important to us and to the entire free world.

President Kaunda will be, and has been, meeting with the members of my Cabinet, with Congressional leaders, some of you around this room. He has had long friendships with some of you. I know that everyone here, President Kaunda, shares my words and would corroborate everything that I have said about your own achievements and your own qualities.

We hope that Southern Africa will take full advantage of your influence and the people of the United States, and I as President, will certainly take full advantage of everything we can derive from you in counsel and advice and well-deserved criticism when we do forget that we in our affluence, with the historic blessings of freedom and equality for the majority of our people, must be reminded that other nations are still struggling for those attributes that all mankind desires so deeply.

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So it is with a great deal of pleasure that I say in your language, Mwaiseni Mwane -- (laughter, applause) -- and in another language that I happen to know, I would like to say, from the people of the United States, we would like to propose a toast to a great leader, President Kaunda and to the fine people of Zambia for a great common future and for human rights throughout the world. (Applause)

PRESIDENT KAUNDA: Mr. President, I know you have got an appointment to go to, but shall I invite my colleagues to come and join me in their short song, which, since you are also revolutionaries, you fought for your own independence, this song we sing when we are reminding ourselves about the ongoing struggle. Delegation -- including the press. (Laughter)

(Entertainment)

PRESIDENT KAUNDA: Mr. President, sisters and brothers, President Carter and myself have exchanged many letters since he assumed office on January 20, 1977. I was corresponding with a man about whom I knew little. Fortunately, the American political system affords "Americanologists" in the world to assess an American President even before he enters the White House.

So even before meeting him, I had already regarded him as a man I understood and admired from the principles widely disseminated by the American news media. Today it is a pleasure to be with him in Washington to share with him the experiences, the joys, the burdens and the challenges of this world. My discussions with him today have confirmed my impressions. He is a man endowed with penetrating simplicity and humility, as well as transparent honesty reminiscent of a peasant.

As you know, honesty is such a rare commodity in a world that has become increasingly cruel, cruel against men and cruel against itself.

Already President Carter has done two most important things, among others, affecting man's relations with man throughout the world. He has injected an important moral tone into politics among nations. He has brought human rights into the full focus of international attention; thereby implementing on a world scale the principles enunciated by the founding fathers of the United States.

That the American people should bring to power a person like Jimmy Carter is a credit to their political system. Though it is different from ours, your two-party system, and our one-party, but still a democracy, attempts to give people of different backgrounds, men and women of humble beginnings, the opportunity to lead their fellow man in shaping their destinies.

Jimmy Carter's background has greatly assisted America's approach to Africa and the Third World. Africa today is much higher on the list of American priorities. This is not a favor to Africa. It is simply the result of an honest facing of realities in the maintenance of international peace and security.

America's relations with African countries have improved. Zambia's relations with the United States have improved. Conflict of views is being replaced by concord in the solution of current crises. Where America would have

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rushed to be involved in supporting a wrong cause, fighting by proxy imminent infestation of communism, restraint has prevailed. Communications between us and the United States have been facilitated greatly by the removal of a number of obstacles that have stood in our way.

The Vietnam war is over. While the Middle East conflict remains unresolved, there is great recognition that the restoration of the rights of all people in that area, including the Palestinians, is essential for the establishment of lasting and just peace.

In Southern Africa, there is greater understanding and acceptance that the interests of the United States of America will not be served by the status quo, but by a change in structural relations between white, black, and brown, in which no one race will be superior over the others.

America is playing a decisive role in the current initiatives to achieve independence for Zimbabwe and Namibia based on majority rule. President Carter and his Administration have been most forthright in giving concrete expression to America's anti-racist and anti-oppression policies.

Mr. President, we will support any continuing efforts designed to achieve peace based on freedom and justice and the enhancement of human dignity. We have never compromised our principles before, even in the face of great difficulties. We will not now do so.

We are strengthened and are resolved by the knowledge that the American government and the many people of good will in this great country accept the principles which motivated the founding fathers to launch their revolution, which laid the Declaration of American Independence.

The same spirit and beliefs contained in the American Declaration of Independence motivate liberation movements. They want freedom and independence. We want mankind to be free, not only free from all forms of oppression and exploitation of man by man, but also free to do what we want and when we want within the law of the land.

This brings me to the subject of human rights, which President Carter has championed since coming to office. This struggle of all the people in the world, wherever they may be, is the struggle for the enhancement of human dignity. That the President of the United States should champion the cause of human rights is a source of great inspiration to all of us.

There are those who are cynical about the importance of morality in politics. I say they are wrong. I believe that unless morality occupies a higher place in deciding the fate of our fellow man and in shaping the destiny of mankind, the consequences are bound to be catastrophic. Without moral principles guiding decision-makers, a nuclear war which haunts all of us will be more difficult to avoid. Mankind's happy future will depend on man's respect for man, on the moral correctness of man's actions towards other men.

We who come from that part of the world called Southern Africa understand when morals are removed from man's conscience, only a beastly heart is left behind. Without morals, man is not man, but a mere imitation of God's original design.

Therefore, I can only urge you, Mr. President, I can only urge the people of these United States to continue sounding the moral drums even louder and clearer.

We may not succeed now. But let us begin to root our decisions on the moral correctness of our actions. If we should leave the decisions to those who think only in terms of military, political, economic or technological power, man will destroy the world faster than he really wants.

Mr. President, I do hope that this visit will help us bring our two countries and our two peoples much closer together in sharing the burdens of shaping man's future. I am glad that this visit provides the opportunity to identify the best route to our common goals.

May I ask you now to join me in this toast: To the President of the United States and the principles for which he stands; to the health of Madam Carter; to the friendship and cooperation between our two peoples; to peace, freedom and justice throughout the world. President Carter.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. (Applause)

END (AT 9:34 P.M. EDT)

FOR IMMEDIATE

MAY 17, 1978

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE

EXCHANGE OF REMARKS

BETWEEN

THE PRESIDENT

AND

HIS EXCELLENCY DR. KENNETH D. KAUNDA,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

THE EAST ROOM

10:35 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: It is a great honor for me as President of the United States to welcome to our country a great man and a friend, Kenneth Kaunda, the President of Zambia.

The last time he was here was three years ago. His wife, Betty, was with him. They captured the hearts of Americans by an impromptu musical performance that was brought back to my own memory by his singing of the words of the National Anthem, a few minutes ago, of his fine country.

Since that visit, in three years, a lot has happened. Momentous changes have occurred and are presently taking place in the southern part of Africa.

His neighbors are standing in admiration of his leadership and using the example set by this great man as a vision of what might be accomplished in the countries still in turmoil where human rights have not been achieved and where many black people are deprived of the right to vote, to participate in the shaping of their own government's policy, their own destiny, and are also deprived of the right of equality of opportunity and life.

President Kaunda is a deeply religious man. And the principles of his Christian beliefs have shaped his private and his public life. He is an idealist. He is a man of great integrity which has never been questioned.

He is a man who has provided, among the front line state leaders, a constant vision or perception of what might be, in his neighboring state of Zimbabwe, Rhodesia. He is a good partner for us.

I think it is accurate to say that our hopes for a future life in Rhodesia are the same as his. We want to see a community in peace. We want to see a government that is fair, where the rights of all citizens might be protected and ensured; the right to participate in government is open to all on an equal basis; that elections might be held open and free, and each person has one vote. We want to see a nation where majority rule can be instituted for a change.

The same thing applies to Namibia, and the entire

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southern part of Africa.

I look forward to these conferences that I will have with President Kenneth Kaunda, with a great deal of anticipation and pleasure. He is a man who is a senior statesman, who understands the overall principles and the details of the complicated interrelationships that exist among the tribes of southern Africa, the unique qualities of the people of each nation; and the failures that have up until this moment been experienced in bringing freedom and a life of hope to many people in his region.

Zambia is a nation that has been close to us and it is with a great deal of pleasure that I welcome to our country this statesman and with a great deal of regret that we note that his wife, Betty, could not be with him on this visit.

President Kaunda, on behalf of the people of our country, we welcome you as a friend. (Applause)

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PRESIDENT KAUNDA: Mr. President, Madam Carter, sisters and brothers, I welcome this opportunity of visiting the United States this year. Your words of welcome are most touching and your thoughts about me and my country are very kind indeed.

The warm and friendly reception extended to me, two of my children, and my entire delegation is memorable. I bring friendly greetings from the people of Zambia to the people of the United States.

This is not my first visit to this great country, but being in the United States today is not the same thing, is not the same thing as being here a few years ago. There is an air of freshness which is invigorating to all those who are committed to the cause of man the world over. This new atmosphere which has brought America closer to many nations, nations which hitherto had been estranged, is the product -- is the product of President Carter.

His spirit and principles have brought inspiration to many nations, particularly in the Third World and among the oppressed. He has given new hopes for improved relations and cooperation between America and Africa and the rest of the Third World.

In consequence, the opportunities for increased cooperation between the peoples of our two continents are now greater, greater than ever before. Our task is to strengthen this happy trend by removing the remaining obstacles in our way.

We must consolidate our achievements in the last few months. Since coming into office, President Carter has played host to a number of African leaders. His epic-making visit to Africa signifies a new recognition of the importance of Africa to America, just as we have always recognized the importance of America to Africa.

We welcome this new approach to Africa's problems. Naturally, Africa expects more from a great country like America, for the challenges of the future are too serious to be ignored, too great to be left to chance, too urgent to be left to time. Africa is growing stronger by the day.

Through the development of her vast resources, Africa's contribution to peace and the well being of mankind is growing.

The people of Africa are now a decisive force in the maintenance of international peace and security.

So Africa is no longer of interest only to multinational corporations, but is also important in the maintenance of peace the world over. President Carter's African policy reflects a new realism on the part of the American Government in dealing with issues concerning Africa.

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We in Zambia will always, Mr. President, support any efforts aimed at creating understanding, unity and cooperation among various peoples of the world without regard to race, color, creed or station in life.

We therefore look forward to a very fruitful visit, not only to Washington, D.C., but to the various States in the next few days.

Once again, Mr. President, I thank you for this memorable and touching reception. May God bless you and all the good people of your country and thank you.
(Applause)

END (AT 10:48 A.M. EDT)

The President

Zambian party

H.E. Dr. Kenneth D. Kaunda (President of Zambia)

The Hon. R. C. Kamanga

The Hon. J. M. Mwanakatwe

The Hon. A. B. Chikwanda

The Hon. Dr. S. G. Mwale

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Vance, The Secretary of State