1965: Rhodesia breaks from UK

The Rhodesian Government, led by Prime Minister Ian Smith, has illegally severed its links with the British Crown.

Mr Smith made the Unilateral Declaration of Independence (UDI) after days of tense negotiations with British Prime Minister Harold Wilson.

His address to the people of Rhodesia said he had taken the action, "so that dignity and freedom of all may be assured".

After the proclamation he explained: "There can be no happiness in a country while the absurd situation continues to exist where..."