



BRITISH EMBASSY  
PARLIAMENT STREET, CAPE TOWN

5 MARCH 1986

Private Secretary to  
The State President of the  
Republic of South Africa  
Tuynhuys  
CAPE TOWN

*Dear Private Secretary,*

I enclose the text of a message dated  
5 March, just received at the Embassy, which is addressed  
to the State President from the Rt Hon Mrs Margaret  
Thatcher MP.

*Yours ever,*

*John Archer*  
G R ARCHER  
Counsellor

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT P W BOTHA

Dear Mr President

I wanted you to know how warmly I welcome the important steps which you have just announced. The lifting of the state of emergency in the very near future should do much to help to create the climate of confidence needed for a constructive response from moderate black leaders to your proposals for dialogue. The decision to name a date on which you will be prepared to begin implementing SCR 435 subject to prior agreement on Cuban troop withdrawal should for its part give a welcome boost to negotiations led by the United States which, as you know, we have supported from the outset. Flexibility will be needed on all sides if agreement is to be reached on the conditions for implementing SCR 435. We shall be working hard to persuade the Angolan Government to play its part.

I am much encouraged that you have seized the initiative on these two important issues.. We must hope that the response will enable you to maintain the momentum.

Yours sincerely

MARGARET THATCHER