

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY PRETORIA 271900Z
 FM FCO 271600Z SEPTEMBER 82
 TO IMMEDIATE PRETORIA
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 1144 OF 27 SEPTEMBER
 AND TO IMMEDIATE HONG KONG FOR PS/PM, UKMIS NEW YORK FOR PS/S OF S

Prime Minister
 This arises from the case
 I mentioned to you just before we
 left London. I have not seen any
 publicity about it so far. *TE-GB*

YOUR TELNO 895 AND 898 (NOT REPEATED).

SOUTH AFRICAN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITY IN THE UK: PROTEST TO THE
 SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR.

1. ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE POLICE, SIR JOHN LEAHY CALLED IN MR STEYN ACCOMPANIED BY MINISTER (EVANS) ON 27 SEPTEMBER TO PROTEST AT INADMISSIBLE BEHAVIOUR BY A MEMBER OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN EMBASSY STAFF, WARRANT OFFICER JOSEF KLUE.
2. LEAHY SAID THAT HMG ATTACHED IMPORTANCE TO GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT, BUT WAS NOT PREPARED TO TOLERATE ILLEGAL OR IMPROPER BEHAVIOUR BY SOUTH AFRICAN OFFICIALS ABOUT WHICH THE SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES HAD BEEN WARNED ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS, THE LATEST IN DECEMBER 1981. TWO MEN, PETER CASTLETON AND BERTIL WEDIN WERE CHARGED ON 23 SEPTEMBER WITH OFFENCES ARISING FROM BURGLARIES AT THE LONDON OFFICES OF THE ANC AND SWAPO IN RECENT MONTHS. A THIRD MAN, EDWARD ASPINALL, WAS WANTED IN CONNECTION WITH THESE CASES. WE HAD INCONTROVERTIBLE EVIDENCE LINKING KLUE TO THESE MEN AND THE BURGLARIES

EVIDENCE LINKING KLUE TO THESE MEN AND THE BURGLARIES. BUT FOR HIS IMMUNITY, KLUE WOULD HAVE BEEN TAKEN IN FOR QUESTIONING AND MIGHT HAVE BEEN PROSECUTED. IT WAS STILL POSSIBLE THAT WE MIGHT ASK FOR A WAIVER OF HIS IMMUNITY. WE MUST ASK FOR KLUE TO REMAIN IN THIS COUNTRY UNTIL THE CASE WAS COMPLETED. AFTER THAT HE MUST LEAVE AT ONCE AND WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO RETURN.

3. LEAHY SAID THAT ANY POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE AFFAIR LAY ENTIRELY WITH SOUTH AFRICA. WE COULD NOT AND WOULD NOT TOLERATE SUCH ACTIVITIES. THE MATTER WAS FOR THE MOMENT SUB JUDICE AND THE TRIAL MIGHT NOT TAKE PLACE FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. WE SHALL NOT INITIATE PUBLICITY BUT IF ASKED WOULD CONFIRM THAT WE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES.
4. STEYN SAID THAT HE WAS DUMBFOUNDED BY THE MATTER. HE VOLUNTEERED NO SERIOUS STATEMENT IN EXPLANATION. HE SAID THAT HE NOTED THE PROTEST AND WOULD COMPLY WITH ITS TERMS.
5. IF ASKED, NEWS DEPT WILL TAKE THE LINE THAT THE CASE IS SUB-JUDICE, BUT CONFIRM CONTACT WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES AS IN LAST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH 3.