

SOUTHERN AFRICA: ADVANCE COPIES 14

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FM LISBON 010940Z JUN 84

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

DESKBY 011100Z

TELEGRAM NUMBER 191 OF 01 JUNE 1984

AND TO PRIORITY CAPE TOWN, LUANDA, MAPUTO, WASHINGTON, BONN, PARIS,  
VIENNA, BRUSSELS

SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO PORTUGAL.

1. P W BOTHA MADE AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO LISBON FROM 29-31 MAY AT THE INVITATION OF MARIO SOARES. LISBON WAS TO HAVE BEEN LAST STOP ON BOTHA'S EUROPEAN TOUR BUT WAS APPARENTLY BROUGHT FORWARD AT SOUTH AFRICAN REQUEST AS OFFERING LAUNCH ON BASIS OF A FORMAL INVITATION.
2. AT THE CLOSING PRESS CONFERENCE WHEN ASKED IF HE HAD CHANGED HIS ATTITUDE TO APARTHEID, SOARES SAID THAT HE HADN'T. HE DID, HOWEVER, BELIEVE THAT A VISIT BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER WAS IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PORTUGUESE STATE. IT SHOULD THEREFORE BE SEEN IN THIS CONTEXT-BESIDES, PORTUGUESE FINANCIAL INTERESTS AND HER COMMUNITY OF 700,000 LIVING IN SOUTH AFRICA GAVE SUBSTANCE TO THE TALKS.
3. P W BOTHA WAS ASKED WHETHER HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD SIGN A NON-AGGRESSION PACT WITH ANGOLA ON THE SAME LINES AS NKOMATI. HE REPLIED 'YES, ON THE SAME PRINCIPLES, NAMELY THAT NO COUNTRY ALLOWS ITSELF TO BE USED AS A SPRINGBOARD BY OTHER FORCES AGAINST ANY OTHER ONE. S. AFRICA IS NOT ALLOWING ANY OF ITS FORCES TO ACT AGAINST ANGOLA, EXCEPT PROTECTING INNOCENT NAMIBIANS BY ATTACKING SWAPO. WE HAVE NO FIGHT AGAINST ANGOLA. WE ARE PREPARED TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT ON THE SAME PRINCIPLES AS MOZAMBIQUE'.



~~W~~ ~~SUCH AN AGREEMENT ON THE SAME PRINCIPLES AS MOZAMBIQUE~~.  
BOTHAS ALSO STRESSED THE COST TO SAG OF SUPPORTING THE NAMIBIAN  
ADMINISTRATION AND BALANCING THE NAMIBIAN BUDGET. IN ADDITION TO  
THE HEAVY COSTS OF POLICE AND SECURITY FORCES.

4. AT HIS DINNER FOR MARIO SOARES P W BOTHAS TOLD ME HE WAS  
LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING MRS THATCHER. HE REMEMBERED HER VISIT  
TO SOUTH AFRICA AS SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION WHEN HE  
HAD MADE A JOURNEY WITH HER BY HELICOPTER.

5. AT SAME FUNCTION PIK BOTHAS TOLD ME THAT VISIT TO PORTUGAL HAD  
GONE "MOST SUCCESSFULLY". SIX MONTHS AGO PRESIDENT EANES HAD  
DESCRIBED UNITA TO HIM AS "BRIGANDS". NOW EANES HAD TOLD P W  
BOTHAS HE BELIEVED DOS SANTOS MUST COME TO SOME POLITICAL SETTLEMENT  
WITH SAVIMBI. PIK BOTHAS SAID THAT SAVIMBI HIMSELF WOULD NOT  
ACCEPT EXCLUSION FROM ANY MPLA/UNITA COALITION ARRANGEMENT.  
IN TALKS WITH THE PORTUGUESE IT HAD BEEN AGREED THAT SC435 COULD  
BE CONTINUING BASIS FOR NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE, BUT ON CONDITION THE  
CUBANS WITHDREW FROM ANGOLA. "IT'S AS SIMPLE AS THAT, AND THE  
AMERICANS AGREE". (SEPARATELY VAN DALSEN MADE THE SAME POINT  
SUGGESTING THAT THE CUBAN MILITARY MUST BE WITHDRAWN BY THE POINT  
AT WHICH SADF IS REDUCED TO 1,500 IN NAMIBIA UNDER SC435).

6. THE PORTUGUESE MFA HAVE TOLD US THAT AT TIMES THE SOUTH  
AFRICANS SEEMED COMPLACENT ABOUT MOZAMBIQUE-THE MAJOR PROBLEMS  
WERE SOLVED. BUT PIK ACKNOWLEDGED TO ME THAT ANGOLA ALTHOUGH  
POTENTIALLY VERY RICH, WAS LESS IMPORTANT TO SOUTH AFRICA THAN  
MOZAMBIQUE. AFTER SOUTH AFRICAN WITHDRAWAL FROM NAMIBIA THERE  
WOULD BE NO COMMON BORDER WITH ANGOLA. HE DESCRIBED THE PRESENT  
EUROPEAN JOURNEY AS INTERESTING, BUT SOUTH AFRICA WAS WORKING OUT  
ITS OWN SOLUTIONS AND "WE DON'T NEED EUROPE ANY MORE".

7. HOWEVER OUR CONTACTS WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN MISSION HERE  
HAVE SHOWN CLEARLY HOW IMPORTANT P W BOTHAS'S JOURNEY IS SEEN TO  
BE IN TERMS OF BREAKING OUT OF ISOLATION. A JUNIOR MEMBER OF  
P W BOTHAS'S DELEGATION ALSO SAID TO ME "THIS JOURNEY RESULTS  
FROM KOOMATIPOORT, PERHAPS WE WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE ANOTHER IF  
WE CAN PULL SOMETHING OFF WITH THE ANGOLANS".

8. PORTUGUESE PRESS COVERAGE HAS BEEN RESERVED. THERE WERE NO  
DEMONSTRATIONS. SOARES HAS ACCEPTED AN INVITATION TO MAKE A  
RETURN VISIT.

BYATT

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