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ETAT
HER EXCELLENCY
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
MARGRET TACHER, MP,
PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
LONDON

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

IT IS WITH DEEP CONCERN AND REGRET THAT I HAVE LEARNED THE
IMPEDING VISIT OF MR. PIETER BOTHA TO YOUR GREAT COUNTRY LATER
THIS YEAR.

MR. BOTHA HEADS A REGIME WHICH, THROUGH THE OBNOXIOUS
POLICY OF APARTHEID, DEPRIVES THE VAST MAJORITY OF SOUTH AFRICA'S
POPULATION OF ITS BASIC DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS AND, INDEED, CONDEMNS
IT TO A LIFE OF PERMANENT SLAVERY AND UNDIGNIFIED EXISTENCE. BY
SUBJECTING ITS AFRICAN POPULATION TO BRUTAL OPPRESSION AND MERCILESS
EXPLOITATION? THE PRIME MINISTER HAS SHOWN A CALLOUS AND CRIMINAL
DISREGARD FOR BASIC HUMAN VALUES AND DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS.

MR. BOTHA'S VISIT TO YOUR COUNTRY IS, NO DOUBT, DESIGNED TO
ADVANCE HIS IGNOMINIOUS AND TOTALLY DISCREDITED POLICY OF APARTEID
THAT POLICY HAS BEEN REPEATEDLY AND CONSISTENTLY CONDEMNED BY THE
UNITED NATIONS, THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY, THE NON-ALIGNED
MOVEMENT AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

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FURTHERMORE, APARTHEID SOUTH AFRICA'S INCARCERATION OF THOUSANDS OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS, THE ABUSE AND DEGRADATION TO WHICH ITS BLACK POPULATION IS DAILY SUBJECTED, THE FEROCITY WITH WHICH IT CRUSHES ANY INCIPIENT MOVEMENT FOR FREEDOM AND LIBERTY, HAVE EARNED IT THE UNIVERSAL CONDEMNATION AND CONTEMPT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

MR. BOTHA'S ARROGANT DISPLAY OF SOUTH AFRICA'S BRUTE MILITARY POWER, HIS INTIMIDATION OF AND BRAZEN AGGRESSIONS AGAINST THE FRONTLINE STATES, HIS WANTON AND SYSTEMATIC DESTRUCTION OF LIFE AND PROPERTY, HIS ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF THE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA, HIS FORCIBLE SEIZURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL TERRITORY OF NAMIBIA AND HIS DEFIANCE OF ALL ATTEMPTS BY THE UNITED NATIONS TO MAKE NAMIBIA INDEPENDENT, CHARACTERIZE HIS REGIME AS A VERITABLE INTERNATIONAL OUTLAW.

COL CKD

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Telegram

A PERSON, DOES NOT, IN MY OPINION DESERVE THE HOSPITALITY OF YOUR GOVERNMENT AND FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLE. IF MR. BOTHA'S VISIT WERE TO GO AHEAD, IT WOULD AMOUNT TO CONFERRING AN AURA OF RESPECTABILITY AND A SEAL OF APPROVAL UPON HIS MORALLY BANKRUPT AND REPRESSIVE REGIME.

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YOUR GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF YOUR GREAT COUNTRY SHOULDER A HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY AND HAVE A LEADING ROLE TO PLAY IN THE WORLD-WIDE STRUGGLE AGAINST APARTHEID, AND FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLE. AS CURRENT CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY, I STRONGLY APPEAL TO YOUR EXCELLENCY TO KINDLY WITHDRAW THE INVITATION EXTENDED TO MR BOTHA TO VISIT YOUR COUNTRY AND REFRAIN FROM TAKING ANY OTHER ACTION WHICH WOULD GIVE AID AND COMFORT TO HIS GOVERNMENT TO TRAMPLE UNDERFOOT THE BASIC AND INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLE.

MENGISTU HAILE MARIAM
CHAIRMAN OF THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL AND OF COPWE,
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE REVOLUTIONARY
ARMED FORCES OF SOCIALIST ETHIOPIA.

COL CKD

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