

323

TOP COPY

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

CONFIDENTIAL

SERIAL No. T111/84

24433 - 1

OO GABORONE
OO NAIROBI
RR LUSAKA
RR DAR ES SALAAM
RR LAGOS
RR CAPE TOWN
RR ADDIS ABABA
RR HARARE
GRS 574

u master ops

CONFIDENTIAL

FM FCO 071240Z JUN 84
TO IMMEDIATE GABORONE
TELEGRAM NUMBER 88 OF 7 JUNE
AND TO IMMEDIATE NAIROBI

Recid 21-6-84

355027/7	
RECEIVED	19. 30
- 8 JUN 1984	

INFO LUSAKA DAR ES SALAAM, LAGOS, MAPUTO, LUANDA, CAPE TOWN, WASHINGTON, UKMIS NEW YORK, ADDIS ABABA, HARARE VISIT BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER TO THE UK

1. I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU AND HC NAIROBI WOULD DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT MASIRE AND PRESIDENT MOI AS SOON AS POSSIBLE:

QUOTE

(FOR PRESIDENT MASIRE: WHEN WE MET ON 14 MAY, WE DISCUSSED BRIEFLY THE VISIT BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER TO BRITAIN.) (FOR PRESIDENT MOI: AS YOU KNOW, THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER CAME TO BRITAIN ON 2 JUNE FOR A WORKING MEETING WITH ME.) I THOUGHT I SHOULD NOW GIVE YOU MY IMPRESSIONS OF MY MEETING WITH MR BOTHA.

I MADE CLEAR AT THE OUTSET THAT I WANTED A FRANK AND WIDE-RANGING DISCUSSION. INDEED, THE MEETING LASTED FOR OVER FIVE HOURS AND COVERED THE FULL RANGE OF REGIONAL PROBLEMS. WE FOCUSED PARTICULARLY ON NAMIBIA AND THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA.

MR BOTHA GAVE ME THE IMPRESSION OF BEING PERSONALLY COMMITTED TO NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. BUT HE ALSO STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE TO SOUTH AFRICA OF AN ACCEPTABLE ARRANGEMENT ON THE WITHDRAWAL OF CUBAN FORCES

CONFIDENTIAL

24433 - 1

FROM ANGOLA, SINCE HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT FAIR AND FREE ELECTIONS COULD TAKE PLACE IN NAMIBIA WHILE THEY WERE STILL THERE. I EXPLAINED THAT, WHILE I BELIEVED FOREIGN FORCES SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE COUNTRIES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA (INCLUDING SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES FROM ANGOLA AND NAMIBIA, AND CUBAN FORCES FROM ANGOLA) WE COULD NOT ACCEPT ANY FORMAL LINK BETWEEN THE WITHDRAWAL OF CUBAN FORCES AND A NAMIBIA SETTLEMENT, FOR WHICH SCR 435 PROVIDES THE INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE BASIS.

WE HAD A LONG DISCUSSION ON THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA. I MADE IT VERY CLEAR THAT I CONDEMNED APARTHEID AND WOULD CONTINUE TO DO SO. I LAID PARTICULAR STRESS ON THE NEED TO FIND WAY OF SATISFYING THE POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS OF THE BLACK POPULATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. I REFERRED TO NELSON MANDELA'S CONTINUED DETENTION AND SAID THAT I HOPED THERE WOULD BE PROGRESS ON THIS SOON. I SPOKE, TOO, ABOUT THE APPALLING PRACTICE OF FORCED REMOVALS OF BLACK PEOPLES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

WE ALSO DISCUSSED SOUTH AFRICA'S RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES. MR BOTHA SHOULD NOW BE WELL AWARE OF OUR VIEWS THAT THE ONLY AGREEMENTS THAT ARE LIKELY TO HAVE LASTING VALUE ARE THOSE WHICH ARE ENTERED INTO FREELY AND WITHOUT A SENSE OF DURESS. (FOR MASIRE: I HOPE THAT AS A RESULT OF MY DISCUSSION, SOUTH AFRICA'S APPROACH TO BOTSWANA, AS TO OTHER COUNTRIES, WILL HAVE BEEN MODERATED.)

IN CONCLUSION, I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT IT WAS RIGHT TO TRY TO INFLUENCE MR BOTHA'S PERCEPTIONS AT FIRST HAND. I DO NOT EXPECT QUICK RESULTS, BUT I SEE THIS MEETING AS PART OF A PROCESS THROUGH WHICH AFRICAN LEADERS, AND EUROPEAN LEADERS AND OTHERS MUST CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR THE SORT OF CHANGES WE ALL WANT TO SEE IN SOUTH AFRICAN POLICIES. UNQUOTE.

2. IN DELIVERING THIS MESSAGE, YOU SHOULD STRESS ORALLY THAT THIS MEETING WITH MR BOTHA SHOULD CERTAINLY NOT BE REGARDED, LEAST OF ALL BY THE SOUTH AFRICANS, AS CONDONING APARTHEID: NOR AS REPRESENTING ANY CHANGE IN BRITISH POLICY. IF ASKED, YOU SHOULD ADD THAT THE PRIME MINISTER MADE CLEAR

CONFIDENTIAL

24433 - 1

THE GOVERNMENT'S RESOLVE TO UPHOLD FULLY ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE UN ARMS EMBARGO, AND UNDER THE GLENEAGLES AGREEMENT.

3. SEPARATE MESSAGES ARE BEING SENT TO MR MUGABE, PRESIDENTS KAUNDA, NYERERE AND MACHEL, AND TO GENERAL BUHARI.

HOWE

SOUTHERN AFRICA

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING STREET]

STANDARD(PALACE)

S AF D

WED

OADS

ECD

MCAD

SOV D

UND

EED

NAD

MR SQUIRE

CABINET OFFICE

3

CONFIDENTIAL