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PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T98 A184

STATE HOUSE

LUSAKA

THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

13th June, 1984.

My Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for the message on your meeting with Mr. P.W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, which your High Commissioner brought to me on Friday last week.

It was kind of you, for which I am grateful, to have informed me in advance, of your intention to invite Mr. Botha for a working visit to your country. I was, however, apprehensive about this visit. I thought that such a visit would be used by South Africa for propoganda purposes in its attempt to strengthen the oppressive apartheid system.

I also feared that Botha's visit to Europe would undermine the campaign to isolate South Africa internationally. This campaign is an important pressure on South Africa which is bound to have positive results provided that it is not undermined.

I find it hard to believe that European Governments can use President Machel's and my meeting with Mr. Botha as a pretext for allowing the South African Prime Minister to visit their countries. This is not a fair comparison as our meeting with Mr. Botha was done out of pressure which the South African regime is exerting on all of us in this region. In other words, President Machel and I have no choice but to meet Mr. Botha in order to lessen the pressure on us. I believe that none of the European countries is under such pressure.

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Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, MP,
Prime Minister,
No. 10 Downing Street,
LONDON.

However, I am pleased to learn that during your meeting with Botha, you condemned the system of apartheid in South Africa and rejected any link between the withdrawal of Cuban Forces from Angola and a Namibia settlement on the basis of United Nations Security Council Resolution 435 (1978). I wish to thank you for this positive stand.

The idea of reconciliation between MPLA and UNITA which the South African Prime Minister raised with you must be rejected on two grounds. Firstly, the UNITA problem is an internal matter for the Angolan Government to solve. Secondly, the idea of reconciliation as a condition for the withdrawal of Cuban Forces from Angola introduces another linkage which cannot be accepted.

The question now is what should we all be doing to break the impasse over the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 435 (1978). I wish to offer two suggestions for your consideration. These are:-

- Firstly, we should all persuade the United States and South Africa to drop the issue of linkage.
- Secondly, we should all persuade South Africa to stop supporting UNITA so that the people of Angola themselves can settle their own differences. Indeed, it will be useful if all Western Governments can make public statements stating that they do not support any anti-MPLA Government Forces.

I shall be grateful to have your views on these two suggestions.

With all good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

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Kenneth D. Kaunda
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA