

SOUTHERN AFRICA: ADVANCE COPIES 14

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FM PRETORIA 211315Z SEPT 84

TO FLASH FCO

TELNO. 390 OF 21ST SEPT 1984

INFO SAVING JOHANNESBURG, DURBAN.

mf

MY TELNO 385: DURBAN INCIDENT

1. IN A PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED THIS MORNING (21 SEPTEMBER) PIK BOTHA REACTED TO TODAY'S STORY IN THE 'RAND DAILY MAIL' REPORTED IN MY TUR.

2. PIK BOTHA DENIED THAT IT WAS THE INTENTION OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT TO ASK FOR THE CLOSURE OF THE CONSULATE. HE ADDED THAT CONTACTS BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS HAD TAKEN PLACE IN THE SPIRIT OF TWO GOVERNMENTS TRYING TO RESOLVE A DELICATE PROBLEM.

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