

D.R.

1. Mr Powell

This is presumably Mr. Van Zyl Slabbert, successor to Helen Suzman as leader of the Progressive Federal Party. The FCO have no knowledge of a visit by him.

2. Prime Minister

The South African Government would not be happy about your seeing him, at a time when relations are already difficult. But since you have seen Botha, there can be no sustainable objection.

Laurens van der Post rang this morning. The South African Leader of the Opposition is coming to Europe to see President Mitterrand at the end of October. He would like to come to London to see you at the beginning of November. You will remember that this is just before The Queen's Speech.

Agree to see him?

C.D.P. 24/10

Content that I find a slot?

- Not before the 6th

*[Handwritten initials]*

C.P.

because of speech

24 October 1984



RESTRICTED



16

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

30 October 1984

South Africa

The Prime Minister has agreed to see Mr. van Zyl Slabbert on Wednesday 7 November. This is at the instigation of Mr. van der Post. You will recall that I mentioned this to you and the Department saw no objection.

BF |

I should be grateful for briefing by Monday 5 November.

Charles Powell

Colin Budd Esq  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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D. R.

MR. POWELL

Laurens van der Post rang this morning to confirm Wednesday, 7 November at 12 noon for Mr. van Zyl Slabbert.

Could you please commission briefing from the FCO?

*CR.*

30 October 1984