

GRS 520
CONFIDENTIAL
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TO PRIORITY FCO
TELNO. 175 OF 6 AUGUST 1985
INFO ROUTINE WASHINGTON
INFO SAVING JOHANNESBURG

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Pine Minter:

*A possible glimpse
of the South African
announcement*

MIPT: SOUTH AFRICA INTERNAL

1. A NATIONAL PARTY M.P. HAS GIVEN US IN CONFIDENCE THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF GOVERNMENT THINKING. IT SEEMS AUTHENTIC ALTHOUGH IT MAY NOT REPRESENT THE WHOLE PICTURE EVEN AT THIS STAGE.

2. IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE NATAL CONGRESS ON 15 AUGUST THE STATE PRESIDENT IS EXPECTED TO OUTLINE PROPOSALS ON WHICH THE GOVERNMENT WERE WORKING ON PRIOR TO THE STATE OF EMERGENCY: PLANS FOR BLACK URBAN ADVANCEMENT AND THE GRANTING OF SOUTH AFRICAN CITIZENSHIP TO THOSE BLACKS AT PRESENT RESTRICTED ONLY TO HOMELANDS CITIZENSHIP. OTHER SUBJECTS WHICH MIGHT BE COVERED ARE POLICY ON FORCED REMOVALS WHICH HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF MINISTERIAL REVIEW SINCE EARLIER THIS YEAR, IMPROVEMENT IN THE EDUCATION FIELD AND DIALOGUE WITH THE BLACKS.

3. THE MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING GAVE OUR MPT CONTACT AN OUTLINE OF THE PACKAGE HE HAD PUT TO THE STATE PRESIDENT. THIS INCLUDED THE RECOMMENDATION THAT THERE SHOULD BE ANNOUNCEMENTS ON BOTH INFLUX CONTROL AND CITIZENSHIP. INFLUX CONTROL WOULD BE PHASED OUT. NO PRECISE FORMULA WOULD BE ANNOUNCED BUT THE DEPARTMENT HAD IN MIND THAT RESIDENCE RIGHTS SHOULD DEPEND ON THE AVAILABILITY OF EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING. A COMPLICATING FACTOR IS THAT THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL HAS BEEN COMMISSIONED TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON INFLUX CONTROL AND HAS NOT YET REPORTED. IT HAS BEFORE IT A DRAFT WHICH RECOMMENDS THE COMPLETE ABOLITION OF INFLUX CONTROL OVER A SEVEN YEAR PERIOD AND UNTIL IT HAS REPORTED THE GOVERNMENT MAY NOT WISH TO GIVE ANY PRECISION TO ITS INTENTIONS.

4. ACCORDING TO THE MP, A LOCAL ANC SYMPATHISER HAS APPROACHED THE GOVERNMENT WITH A MESSAGE FROM A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE ANC WHOM HE HAD MET FOR DISCUSSIONS IN BOTSWANA. THE MESSAGE PROPOSED PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS WITHOUT CONDITIONS. IT APPEARED TO BE A PERSONAL INITIATIVE BUT HEUNIS WAS SATISFIED THAT IT WAS A GENUINE OFFER. HE HAD RECOMMENDED TO THE STATE PRESIDENT THAT THE OFFER SHOULD BE ACCEPTED BUT NO DECISION HAD YET BEEN TAKEN.

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5. A SMALL GROUP OF NATIONAL PARTY MP'S HAS PUT A SUBMISSION TO MINISTERS RECOMMENDING THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD PREPARE THE WAY FOR MANDELA'S EVENTUAL RELEASE BY ALLOWING GREATER ACCESS TO HIM. IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD NOW TAKE THIS UP. HEUNIS SEEMED TO FAVOUR THE IDEA.
6. THE SAME MP ALSO TOLD US THAT ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE FOR A LIMITED NUMBER OF BLACK RADICALS FROM SOWETO LINKED WITH THE UDF QUOTE MORE EXTREME THAN MOTLANA AND HIS COLLEAGUES UNQUOTE TO MEET GOVERNMENT MINISTERS INFORMALLY. ONE SUCH MEETING HAD TAKEN PLACE. THE BLACK MESSAGE HAD BEEN AN UNAMBIGUOUS DEMAND THAT THE GOVERNMENT MUST DO BUSINESS WITH THE ANC IF THERE WAS TO BE ANY PROGRESS. OTHER MEETINGS HAD BEEN POSTPONED AFTER THE STATE PRESIDENT'S REFUSAL TO SEE TUTU. THE BLACKS IN QUESTION WERE OPPOSED TO THE UNREST BUT WERE NOT WILLING TO MAKE ANY COMMITMENT TO ABANDON CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE.

MOBERLY

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