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TELNO 167
OF 061700Z SEPTEMBER 85
INFO IMMEDIATE LAGOS
INFO PRIORITY ALL EC POSTS, UKMIS NEW YORK, WASHINGTON, DELHI,
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FROM NEWS DEPARTMENT

1. FOLLOWING ARE EDITED HIGHLIGHTS OF SECRETARY OF STATE'S
RADIO INTERVIEWS ON 6 SEPTEMBER DEALING WITH SOUTH AFRICA:
BBC EXTERNAL SERVICES

Q : ANY POSITIVE STEPS YOU THINK COULD BE TAKEN AT
THE PRESENT MOMENT?

A : I THINK THAT ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE PRESSURES THAT IS NOW
BEING MANIFESTED IS THE PRESSURE OF THE JUDGEMENT OF MARKETS AND
INVESTORS AROUND THE WORLD IN FACE OF THE MANIFEST POLITICAL
UNWISDOM OF WHAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN DOING SO
FAR. THAT IS OBLIGING THE SOUTH AFRICANS TO THINK FUNDAMENTALLY
ABOUT WHERE IT HAS BEEN GOING, WHERE IT OUGHT TO GO. I THINK WE
WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT THAT MESSAGE GETS THROUGH VERY CLEARLY.
I DO NOT THINK THAT IT WOULD ACTUALLY HELP TO MOVE DOWN A ROAD
OF COMPULSORY COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS MUCH AS I WANT
TO SEE THE CHANGES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Q : RESPONSE TO CRITICS WHO SAY THAT OUR REFUSAL
TO GO AHEAD WITH SANCTIONS IS BECAUSE OF OUR TREMENDOUS
COMMERCIAL INTEREST IN SOUTH AFRICA?

A : I WOULD SAY TO THOSE CRITICS THAT IT WOULD BE FOOLISH TO
DISREGARD THE FACT THAT FOR HISTORICAL REASONS, THERE ARE VERY
SUBSTANTIAL HUMAN, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL LINKS BETWEEN SOUTH

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AFRICA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM. THOSE LINKS MEAN THAT WE HAVE GOT PEOPLE GOING THERE, PEOPLE TRADING THERE, WHO ARE ABLE TO SAY THINGS FROM THAT VANTAGE POINT TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS WHICH OTHERS ARE NOT ABLE TO DO. SO LET US ACCEPT THAT AS A FACT OF LIFE, LET US USE IT AS A FOOTHOLD, AS A FOUNDATION, FROM WHICH TO GET ACROSS TO SOUTH AFRICA WHAT THEY NEED TO DO TO PUT THEIR COUNTRY TO RIGHTS. DON'T JUST, AS A GESTURE, DESTROY ALL THAT IF IN OUR HONEST JUDGEMENT THAT IS ACTUALLY NOT GOING TO HELP PROMOTE THE CHANGES WE WANT IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Q : IS YOUR VIEW PARTLY CLOUDED PERHAPS BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN THREAT TO EXPEL BLACK WORKERS BACK TO THE NEIGHBOURING TERRITORIES?

A : THAT THREAT, THE REALITY IF YOU LIKE IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES OF THAT KIND OF ACTION TAKING PLACE, IS A FACT THAT WE ALL HAVE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT. IF THE PRICE OF PROMOTING CHANGE IN THE WRONG WAY IN SOUTH AFRICA IS DAMAGE TO OTHER NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES, DAMAGE TO THE BLACK PEOPLE FOR WHOSE FUTURE WE ARE MOST CONCERNED, THEN WE ALL OUGHT TO THINK AGAIN ABOUT THE WISDOM OF FOLLOWING THE POLICY OF MANDATORY ECONOMIC SANCTIONS. BUT WHAT I AM TRYING TO GET ACROSS IS NO DOUBT ABOUT THE OBJECTIVES. WE ALL AGREE ON THAT. LET US ALL THEREFORE SENSIBLY DISCUSS WHAT IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY IN WHICH EACH COUNTRY CAN BRING ITS PRESSURES AND ITS ADVICE TO BEAR ON THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT.

Q : STRONG CONDEMNATION BY THE UNITED STATES OF THE VIOLENCE BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES AND THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS. TIME FOR BRITAIN TO MAKE A SIMILAR STATEMENT?

A : WE HAVE REPEATEDLY CONDEMNED VIOLENCE FROM EITHER SIDE IN SOUTH AFRICA. WHAT WE WANT TO SEE IS THE EFFECTIVE PROMOTION OF THE CHANGES THAT ARE NECESSARY WITHOUT VIOLENCE, SO WE DEPLORE VIOLENCE FROM WHICHEVER QUARTER IT COMES IN SOUTH AFRICA. WE WANT TO SEE CHANGE, CHANGE QUICKLY. WE ARE ANXIOUS TO DO ALL WE CAN TO PROMOTE THAT CHANGE.

Q : DO YOU SEE THE REFUSAL BY BRITISH BANKS APPARENTLY TO EXTEND FURTHER CREDIT TO SOUTH AFRICA AS PART OF ONE TYPE OF

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SANCTION WHICH COULD BE TAKEN?

A : I THINK THAT WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE VARIOUS MANIFESTATIONS AROUND THE WORLD OF THE JUDGEMENT BY THE COMMERCIAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITY ON THE POLITICAL RISKS AND POLITICAL FOLLY OF WHAT HAS BEEN DONE IN SOUTH AFRICA IS PROBABLY ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAYS OF PERSUADING THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT TO RECONSIDER FUNDAMENTALLY THE POLITICAL POLICIES THAT HAVE GOT IT INTO ITS PRESENT DIFFICULTY.

IRN (INDEPENDENT RADIO NEWS)

Q : YOUR RESPONSE TO THE ARGUMENT THAT THE BLACKS THEMSELVES IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE IN FAVOUR OF WESTERN COUNTRIES APPLYING ECONOMIC SANCTIONS?

A : TO THAT I SAY THAT SOME BLACK PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA, JUST AS SOME WHITE PEOPLE, TAKE THAT VIEW. SOME BLACK PEOPLE DO NOT. IT IS A QUESTION WHICH DIVIDES OPINION INSIDE AND OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA, QUITE UNDERSTANDABLY. THE ONE THING THAT DOES NOT DIVIDE US IS ON THE NEED FOR FUNDAMENTAL RAPID CHANGE. THE NEED FOR REAL DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA AND THE WHOLE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA AFTER HAVING TAKEN THE STEPS TO RELEASE THE EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIPS OF THE BLACK UNIT. WE WANT TO SEE THAT HAPPENING AS QUICKLY AND AS EFFECTIVELY AS POSSIBLE. THE ONLY ARGUMENT IS AS TO HOW WE ACHIEVE IT MOST EFFECTIVELY.

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