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TO DESKBY 011100Z FCO
TELNO 243
OF 010840Z MAY 86

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T83AA/86

Subject: Relations: SOUTH AFRICA A9.

MIPT: SOUTH AFRICA: COMGEP AND TOKYO ECONOMIC SUMMIT
1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER FROM PRESIDENT BOTHA TO MRS
THATCHER:
BEGINS

DEAR PRIME MINISTER

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF 18 APRIL 1986.

YOU ARE ALREADY IN POSSESSION OF MY FOREIGN MINISTER'S LETTER OF
24 APRIL 1986 TO THE CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE COMMONWEALTH GROUP OF
Eminent persons which contains the initial response of my govern-
ment to the group's "NEGOTIATING CONCEPT". AS INTIMATED TO YOUR
AMBASSADOR ON 24 APRIL YOUR VIEWS WERE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN THE
FORMULATION OF THIS RESPONSE AND I HOPE YOU WILL AGREE THAT IT
PROVIDES A BASIS FOR FURTHER POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS.

OF THE ISSUES ADDRESSED IN MY LETTER TO YOU ON 10 APRIL TWO
REMAIN A SOURCE OF CONSIDERABLE CONCERN TO ME AND MY GOVERNMENT.
THE FIRST RELATES TO THE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN
GOVERNMENT OF A CONTINUATION OR ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE ACCOMPANYING
MR MANDELA'S RELEASE OR A SUBSEQUENT RESURGENCE OF GENERAL VIOLENCE
IN THE COUNTRY AS A FORM OF PRESSURE IN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS.
NOT ONLY THE ANC BUT OTHER PARTIES AS WELL, OR ELEMENTS WITHIN
THEM, ARE ENGAGED IN A CAMPAIGN OF VIOLENCE AND WE NEED TO BE
SATISFIED THAT AT LEAST THEIR LEADERSHIP AS WELL AS THE ANC LEADER-
SHIP WILL HONOUR COMMITMENTS TO SUSPEND THEIR VIOLENCE. I DO NOT
WANT TO FIND MYSELF IN A SITUATION OF HAVING TO REINSTATE MEASURES
IN ORDER TO CONTROL A POSSIBLE RESURGENCE OF VIOLENCE AND DISCOVER
AS YOU ACKNOWLEDGE MIGHT HAPPEN, THAT SOME GOVERNMENTS WOULD SEE
SUCH A DEVELOPMENT, DESPITE OUR ACTING IN GOOD FAITH AND WITHIN
REASON, AS AN EXCUSE FOR FURTHER PUNITIVE MEASURES.

/I ACCEPT

- DEDIP

WE ACCEPT THAT THE GROUP MAY NOT BE ABLE TO OFFER ABSOLUTE ASSURANCES BUT WE SHOULD LIKE AT LEAST TO HAVE CLARIFICATION ON A NUMBER OF ASPECTS INHERENT IN THIS ISSUE. THIS IS WHAT WE HAVE IN MIND IN SUGGESTING TO THE GROUP THAT WE EMBARK ON FURTHER DISCUSSIONS.

THE OTHER MATTER IS THAT OF THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ANC. I NOTE YOUR OWN WELL-KNOWN COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRATIC VALUES AND OPPOSITION TO COMMUNISM, TERRORISM AND TOTALITARIANISM. GOVERNMENTS WHICH SHARE YOUR VALUES AND BELIEFS ARE UNFORTUNATELY OUTNUMBERED BY SUPPORTERS OF THE ANC AND WHAT IT STANDS FOR. THERE IS AN URGENT NEED FOR GOVERNMENTS WHICH SHARE YOUR VIEWS ON TERRORISM PUBLICLY TO DENOUNCE THE VIOLENCE OF THE ANC.

IN ADDITION THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT PRESENT AT THE SUMMIT MEETING IN TOKYO IN EARLY MAY COULD PROVIDE MOMENTUM TO CURRENT EFFORTS TO BRING AN END TO VIOLENCE AND FACILITATE NEGOTIATIONS, INCLUDING THE EPG'S EFFORTS, BY AFFIRMING

- THEIR SUPPORT FOR A CONSTITUTION WHICH GUARANTEES:
- DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES INCLUDING AN INDEPENDENT JUDICIAL SYSTEM AND THE EQUALITY OF ALL UNDER THE LAW
- PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS
- PRIVATE INITIATIVE AND EFFECTIVE COMPETITION
- FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES
- THE PROTECTION OF MINORITY RIGHTS IN A MANNER WHICH WOULD ENSURE THAT THERE WILL BE NO POLITICAL DOMINATION BY ANY ONE COMMUNITY OF ANY OTHER
- FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND OF EXPRESSION IN GENERAL
- FREEDOM OF RELIGION AND WORSHIP.

- THAT THEY WELCOME THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT'S READINESS TO NEGOTIATE A NEW CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER BASED ON THE SHARING OF POWER UP TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT AND RECOGNISE THAT THE STRUCTURES GIVING EFFECT TO THIS OBJECTIVE MUST BE JOINTLY AGREED UPON BY SOUTH AFRICANS ALONE.

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- THEIR REJECTION OF VIOLENCE AS A MEANS TO ACHIEVE POLITICAL OBJECTIVES SEMI COLON
- THAT NOW IS THE TIME TO SUSPEND ALL VIOLENCE AND ENGAGE IN NEGOTIATIONS TO THIS END SEMI COLON
- THAT A SUFFICIENT BASIS HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR A TRANSITION TO NEGOTIATIONS.

WE HAVE ADVANCED SUFFICIENTLY FAR ALONG THE ROAD OF REFORM TO JUSTIFY ACCEPTANCE BY BLACK LEADERS IN GENERAL OF THE URGENT NEED TO ENGAGE IN NEGOTIATIONS IN ORDER TO ARRIVE AT A NEW CONSTITUTIONAL DISPENSATION.

I HOPE YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES WILL FEEL ABLE TO ACT ON THESE SUGGESTIONS.

SIMILAR COMMUNICATIONS WILL BE SENT TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE OTHER COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE TOKYO SUMMIT.

YOURS SINCERELY
P W BOTHA
ENDS

MOBERLY

LIMITED.

HD. SAFD.

HD. PLANNING STAFF.

HD. ERD.

PS.

PS MRS. CHALKER.

PS PUS.

MR. DEREK THOMAS.

MR. E. FERGUSSON

MR. MAUD.

MR. REEVE

N° 10 DOWNING ST.