



OPS
cc. MASTER

SUBJECT -

Op. S. AFRICA
Relations Pt. II

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. 127/86

South African Embassy

7 July 1986

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1

Dear Prime Minister

Thank you for the message conveyed to me this evening concerning Sir Geoffrey Howe's visit and for your understanding of the pressures on my programme.

I was pleased to note that Sir Geoffrey will convey in clear terms to the ANC leadership that if progress is to be made, it can only be achieved by peaceful means and that he will be laying particular emphasis on the need to abandon violence.

In these circumstances, I shall be available to meet Sir Geoffrey at 14h30 on 23 July and if necessary again on the 29th July.

So far as a meeting with Mr Nelson Mandela is concerned, as I mentioned to you in my message of 1 July, I shall discuss this with Sir Geoffrey at our first meeting and let him have my decision then.

I appreciate the constructive terms of your message.

Yours sincerely

P W BOTHA
STATE PRESIDENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA