

CONFIDENTIAL AND PERSONAL

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SUBJECT COMASTER



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

10 January 1990

Dear Stephen,

SOUTH AFRICA

The Foreign Secretary told the Prime Minister this morning that, following her own meeting with Sir Robin Renwick, a paper was being prepared setting out the actions we might take in the event of Mandela's release. It would also deal with the considerations affecting a visit by the Prime Minister to South Africa.

The Prime Minister suggested that we ought to urge more Ministers to visit South Africa, as part of our aim of encouraging contacts. While we should clearly need to steer clear of sensitive areas such as defence, it could be helpful to our commercial interests to arrange visits by Departmental Ministers in areas such as the environment or transport or energy. She understood there was considerable interest in South Africa, for instance, in our experience of privatisation. The Foreign Secretary promised to give consideration to this.

Yours sincerely,
Charles Powell

CHARLES POWELL

J. S. Wall, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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