

CONFIDENTIAL

FM FCO

TO DESKBY 110001Z TOKYO

TELNO 93

OF 101658Z FEBRUARY 90

FROM RESIDENT CLERK
SOUTH AFRICA: RELEASE OF MANDELA

1. FOLLOWING THE SOUTH AFRICAN ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE INTENDED RELEASE OF MANDELA, GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD ARRANGE FOR THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO BE PASSED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO MR KAIFU.

BEGINS

I AM SURE YOU ARE AS ENCOURAGED AS I AM BY DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA. PRESIDENT DE KLERK'S SPEECH ON 2 FEBRUARY REPRESENTS A BREAKTHROUGH, PAVING THE WAY FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON A NEW CONSTITUTION. AS AN IMMEDIATE POSITIVE SIGNAL OF SUPPORT FOR WHAT HE HAS DONE, I HAVE INVITED HIM TO VISIT LONDON AND MADE KNOWN THAT IN FUTURE WE WILL ENCOURAGE ACADEMIC, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL CONTACTS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. I SHALL INVITE MR MANDELA TO LONDON WHEN HE IS FREE.

PRESIDENT DE KLERK HAS TAKEN CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL RISKS. HE HAS MOVED FURTHER AND FASTER THAN HIS WHITE ELECTORATE COULD HAVE IMAGINED. THE PACE OF FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS DOES NOT REST SOLELY IN HIS HANDS. I SHALL BE URGING THOSE WHO HAVE THE MOST INFLUENCE WITH THE ANC AND THE OTHER OPPOSITION GROUPS TO PERSUADE THEM TO TAKE UP THE OFFER OF NEGOTIATIONS AND TO SUSPEND VIOLENCE. I HOPE YOU WILL DO THE SAME.

I BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT THAT PRESIDENT DE KLERK SHOULD BE ABLE TO DEMONSTRATE TO HIS PEOPLE THAT THE BOLD INITIATIVE HE HAS NOW TAKEN IS BEING REWARDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, WITH THE PROMISE OF MORE TO FOLLOW WHEN SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS BEGIN.

WHEN MANDELA IS FREE AND IT IS CLEAR THAT THE REMAINING EMERGENCY RESTRICTIONS WILL BE LIFTED, DE KLERK WILL HAVE CREATED THE CONDITIONS FOR DIALOGUE FOR WHICH WE HAVE LONG APPEALED. WE SHOULD THEREFORE RESPOND BY LIFTING SOME

act
1st/10k request
PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T27F/90
SUBJECT cc Master
cc OPS

OF THE NEGATIVE MEASURES WE IMPOSED SOME YEARS AGO AS A MARK OF OUR DISAPPROVAL OF THE ABSENCE OF CONDITIONS FOR DIALOGUE. AS A FIRST STEP, I PROPOSE TO LIFT OUR BAN ON INVESTMENT. (IN DOING SO, I AM CONSCIOUS THAT THE LIFTING OF THE BAN IN ITSELF WILL NOT ACT AS A STIMULUS TO NEW INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA. THE JUDGEMENT OF THE MARKET WILL DETERMINE WHETHER NEW INVESTMENT IS FORTHCOMING. THAT IS A GOOD INCENTIVE TO FURTHER PROGRESS IN SOUTH AFRICA.) I HOPE THAT YOU WILL MAKE A SIMILAR POSITIVE MOVE.

I BELIEVE WE SHOULD ALSO SEE WHAT CAN BE DONE TO GIVE SOUTH AFRICA ACCESS TO THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS. ONCE TALKS BEGIN ON A NEW CONSTITUTION, SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO THE IMF AND IBRD. IT WILL NEED ALL THE HELP IT CAN GET FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN OVERCOMING THE DISTORTIONS OF APARTHEID AND THE MEETING OF THE NEEDS OF THE POORER MEMBERS OF THE POPULATION.

THERE IS A REAL CHANCE NOW OF FINDING A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO SOUTH AFRICA'S PROBLEMS THROUGH NEGOTIATION. I AM SURE THAT YOU WILL AGREE THAT WE MUST DO ALL WE CAN TO ENSURE THAT THIS OPPORTUNITY IS NOT WASTED.
ENDS

HURD

YYYY

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