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TO IMMEDIATE SEOUL
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AND TO IMMEDIATE TOKYO

FOR PS/PRIME MINISTER AND PS/FOREIGN SECRETARY ON ARRIVAL FROM
PUS

COMGEP REVIEW MEETING

1. RAMPHAL SPOKE TO ME AGAIN THIS AFTERNOON JUST BEFORE LEAVING FOR MALAYSIA AND INDIA. HE HAS CONTACTED NEARLY ALL THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT CONCERNED ABOUT THE DATE AND SAID THAT HE REALLY DID BELIEVE THAT THERE WERE GENUINE AND INESCAPABLE DIFFICULTIES ABOUT EARLY SEPTEMBER. ALL THOSE CONSULTED THINK

THAT AN EARLIER MEETING IS POLITICALLY DESIRABLE AND, IN THE LIGHT OF THE SUCCESSFUL CONTACTS BETWEEN COMGEP AND THE SOUTH AFRICANS IN THE LAST TWO DAYS IN LONDON, RAMPHAL HIMSELF BELIEVES THAT ANY EARLIER MEETING MIGHT HELP TO ENSURE THE CONTINUATION OF THE COMGEP PROCESS. ON PRACTICALITIES, MUGABE IS CHAIRING THE NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT IN HARARE IN EARLY SEPTEMBER AND SEVERAL HEADS OF GOVERNMENT ARE STAYING ON THEREAFTER. KAUNDA AND GANDHI WILL OF COURSE BE INVOLVED. MULRONEY IS HOST TO CHIRAC AT THE SAME TIME.

2. ON THE POSITIVE SIDE, ALL ARE AGREED TO COME TO LONDON IN EARLY AUGUST AND RAMPHAL THINKS THAT THERE WILL BE AGREEMENT TOO ON PINDLING'S CHAIRMANSHIP. GANDHI WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE LONDON BY MID-DAY ON 5 AUGUST IF HE IS TO GET TO MEXICO IN TIME FOR THE MEETING OF THE NON-NUCLEAR GROUP.

3. I SAID THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO MANAGE EARLY AUGUST BUT I THOUGHT THAT, IF THE OTHER HEADS OF GOVERNMENT HAD ABSOLUTELY INESCAPABLE COMMITMENTS FROM 1-3 SEPTEMBER AND IF THEY WERE PREPARED TO MEET IN LONDON, SHE MIGHT AGREE TO REARRANGE HER PROGRAMME. RAMPHAL SAID THAT HE WOULD PROPOSE THAT THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT SHOULD MEET FOR DINNER ON SUNDAY 3 AUGUST, WORK THROUGH 4 AUGUST AND FINISH NOT LATER THAN MID-DAY ON 5 AUGUST. IN VIEW OF THE DISCRETION GIVEN TO ME AND SINCE I BELIEVE THERE ARE VERY GENUINE DIFFICULTIES FOR THE OTHERS IN EARLY SEPTEMBER I AGREED THAT HE SHOULD WRITE TO THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT WITH THOSE PROPOSALS.

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