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Subj: on S. AFRICA Relations Pt. II
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**PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE**
SERIAL No. 7126A/86

CONFIDENTIAL
DEDIP
FM FCO
TO FLASH PRETORIA
TELNO 108
OF 071500Z JULY 86

PRIME MINISTER'S CORRESPONDENCE WITH STATE PRESIDENT BOTHA

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF REPLY FROM PRIME MINISTER TO P W BOTHA'S LATEST MESSAGE, WHICH WAS DELIVERED HERE YESTERDAY AND WHICH WE ASSUME IS AVAILABLE TO YOU VIA THE DFA. WE ARE DELIVERING ACTION COPY TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN EMBASSY, IN THE INTERESTS OF SPEED.

2. MESSAGE BEGINS:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELPFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE REPLY, DELIVERED YESTERDAY, TO MY MESSAGE OF 4 JULY.

I FULLY UNDERSTAND THE PRESSURES ON YOUR PROGRAMME, AND AM GRATEFUL FOR YOUR EFFORTS TO ADVANCE THE TIMING OF YOUR MEETING WITH GEOFFREY HOWE. IT IS A PITY THAT 14 JULY IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM BECAUSE OF THE SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT.

I KNOW THAT THE FOREIGN SECRETARY IS LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING YOU ON 29 JULY. AS I SAID IN MY EARLIER MESSAGE, THERE IS MUCH TO TALK ABOUT, AND YOU MAY NOT FIND YOU CAN GET THROUGH IT ALL IN ONE MEETING. MOREOVER A MEETING ONLY ON 29 JULY WOULD LEAVE VERY LITTLE TIME FOR A SUBSEQUENT MEETING WITH MR NELSON MANDELA TO WHICH, AS YOU KNOW, I ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE. I WONDER THEREFORE IF YOU WOULD TRY TO SEE THE FOREIGN SECRETARY NEARER TO THE OUTSET OF HIS VISIT. I AM VERY CONSCIOUS THAT I HAVE TO MEET WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT ON

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3/5 AUGUST IN LONDON. I WANT TO HAVE AS STRONG A CASE AS POSSIBLE TO PUT TO THEM.

I READ WITH INTEREST THE REFERENCE IN YOUR LETTER TO THE NEED FOR EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS TO PUT PRESSURE ON THOSE WHO ARE ENCOURAGING INTIMIDATION AND VIOLENCE SO AS TO PREVENT NEGOTIATIONS FROM TAKING PLACE. VERY MUCH WITH THAT POINT IN MIND, YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT GEOFFREY HOWE AND I HAVE DECIDED THAT HE SHOULD VISIT ZAMBIA, ALONG WITH ZIMBABWE, LATER THIS WEEK. A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT KAUNDA HAD ALREADY BEEN AGREED BEFORE WE LEARNT OF YOUR DIARY DIFFICULTIES. WHILE IN ZAMBIA, THE FOREIGN SECRETARY IS LIKELY TO HAVE A MEETING WITH THE ANC LEADERSHIP IN ORDER TO PUT ACROSS A VERY CLEAR MESSAGE, THAT IF PROGRESS IS TO BE MADE, IT CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED BY PEACEFUL MEANS. DURING THESE VISITS, GEOFFREY HOWE WILL THEREFORE BE LAYING PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE NEED TO ABANDON VIOLENCE.

AS YOU SAY, WE AGREE ON SOME FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVES, BUT WE DIFFER AS TO THE BEST WAY OF ACHIEVING THEM. I HOPE VERY MUCH THAT WE CAN ENLARGE THE AREA OF COMMON GROUND, IN ALL OUR INTERESTS.

MESSAGE ENDS.

HOWE

OCMIAN 8265

NNNN

LIMITED

HEAD OF SAFD

PS

PS/PUS

MR E FERGUSSON

MR REEVE

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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

7 July, 1986.

SIGNIFY COPY NOT NECESSARY.

Thank you for your helpful and constructive reply, delivered yesterday, to my message of 4 July.

I fully understand the pressures on your programme, and am grateful for your efforts to advance the timing of your meeting with Geoffrey Howe. It is a pity that 14 July is impossible for him because of the Soviet Foreign Minister's visit.

I know that the Foreign Secretary is looking forward to meeting you on 29 July. As I said in my earlier message, there is much to talk about, and you may not find you can get through it all in one meeting. Moreover a meeting only on 29 July would leave very little time for a subsequent meeting with Mr. Nelson Mandela to which, as you know, I attach great importance. I wonder therefore if you would try to see the Foreign Secretary nearer to the outset of his visit. I am very conscious that I have to meet with a number of other Commonwealth Heads of Government on 3/5 August in London. I want to have as strong a case as possible to put to them.

I read with interest the reference in your letter to the need for European Governments to put pressure on those who are encouraging intimidation and violence so as to prevent

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negotiations from taking place. Very much with that point in mind, you should know that Geoffrey Howe and I have decided that he should visit Zambia, along with Zimbabwe, later this week. A meeting with President Kaunda had already been agreed before we learnt of your diary difficulties. While in Zambia, the Foreign Secretary is likely to have a meeting with the ANC leadership in order to put across a very clear message, that if progress is to be made, it can only be achieved by peaceful means. During these visits, Geoffrey Howe will therefore be laying particular emphasis on the need to abandon violence.

As you say, we agree on some fundamental objectives, but we differ as to the best way of achieving them. I hope very much that we can enlarge the area of common ground, in all our interests.

The Honourable P.W. Botha, DMS, MP.

DRAFT: minute/letter/teletype/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM: Prime Minister

Reference

DEPARTMENT: TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO: *Amv*
The Honorable P W Botha DMS MP

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

Thank you for your helpful and constructive reply, delivered yesterday, to my message of 4 July.

CAVEAT.....

I fully understand the pressures on your programme and am grateful for your efforts to advance the timing of your meeting with Geoffrey Howe. It is a pity that 14 July is impossible for him because of the *Soviet Foreign Minister's* Shevardnadze visit.

I know that the Foreign Secretary is looking forward to meeting you on 29 July. As I said in my earlier message, there is much to talk about. *and you may not find* For that reason I feel *you can get through it all in brief meetings* strongly that if there are to be the kind of *through* in depth

~~discussions for which we both hope it will almost certainly be necessary for him to have more than one meeting with you during that visit. *Rarely* LA meeting only on 29 July would leave very little time for a subsequent~~

Enclosures—flag(s).....

meeting with Mr Nelson Mandela to which, as you know, I attach great importance. *would* I therefore very much hope *be very grateful* that *if you could all your ways* it may be possible for you to fit in a meeting with the Foreign Secretary nearer to the outset of his visit,

I wonder whether if you would try to see how to bring forward

/say

~~I want to have as good a case as possible to put to the Commonwealth Heads of the Government when I have to meet on 3 August.~~
say on 24 or 25 July.

I read with interest the reference in your letter to the need for European Governments to put pressure on those who are encouraging intimidation and violence so as to prevent negotiations from taking place. Very much with that point in mind, you should know that Geoffrey Howe and I have decided that he should visit Zambia, along with ~~probably~~ Zimbabwe ^{later} ~~and Mozambique~~ ~~also~~, this week. A meeting with President Kaunda had already been agreed before we learnt of your diary difficulties. While in Zambia, the Foreign Secretary ~~will hope~~ ^{is likely} to have a meeting with the ANC leadership. ^{in order to} He will be putting across a very clear message ~~designed to bring home to them our view, that if progress is to be made, it would be far better and more quickly achieved by peaceful means.~~ ^{can only be} During these visits, Geoffrey Howe will therefore be ^{laying} giving particular emphasis ^{on} to the need to ^{abandon} foreswear violence.

As you say, we ~~seem to be in agreement~~ on some fundamental objectives, but to differ as to the best way of achieving them. ^{I hope very much that we} The sooner we seek to enlarge the area of common ground, ^{in all} the better.

^{our} interests.

I am very conscious that I have to meet with a number of other Commonwealth Heads of Government on 3/5 August in London. I want to ~~have~~

have as strong a case as possible to put to them.



to you

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

7 July, 1986.

BF
FOR TELEGRAM

REPLY TO PRESIDENT BOTHA'S LATEST MESSAGE

I enclose a reply from the Prime Minister to President Botha's latest message which I should be grateful if you would despatch.

(C.D. Powell)

C.R. Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.