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WBODAN 4590 OCMIAN 9619

RESTRICTED

DD 122100Z OTTAW

FM FCOLN TO OTTAW

121740Z JUL

GRS 230

RESTRICTED

FM FCO

TO DESKBY 122100Z OTTAWA

TELNO 294

OF 121740Z JULY 86

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM NOW REPEATED TO YOU AT REQUEST OF RES CLERK
WAS RECEIVED FROM PRETORIA TELEGRAM NO 141 OF 11 JULY 86

OF 120700Z JULY 86

YOUR TELNO 110: SECRETARY OF STATE'S VISIT: PRESS REACTION

1. THE ARTICLE WAS PRESUMABLY REFERRING TO THE SERIES OF INVITATIONS ISSUED BY PRESIDENT BOTHA IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE TO BLACK REPRESENTATIVES TO DISCUSS IDEAS FOR POWER-SHARING, MOST RECENTLY THROUGH THE PROPOSED NATIONAL STATUTORY COUNCIL. THESE INVITATIONS HAVE SO FAR BEEN REJECTED BY ALL BLACK LEADERS OTHER THAN THOSE ALREADY ASSOCIATED WITH THE GOVERNMENT. THE RADICALS ARE NOT INTERESTED IN NEGOTIATING ABOUT POWER-SHARING APPARENTLY DESIGNED TO MAINTAIN WHITE CONTROL. THE MODERATES INCLUDING BUTHELEZI FEEL UNABLE TO RESPOND UNTIL MANDELA IS RELEASED AND THE ANC BANNED.
2. THE ARTICLE MAY ALSO BE REFERRING TO THE PERIODIC CONTACTS WHICH TAKE PLACE BETWEEN THE STATE PRESIDENT AND BLACK LEADERS SUCH AS BISHOP TUTU AND DR BOESAK. OFFICIAL SOURCES CLAIM THAT SUCH CONTACTS ARE MORE FREQUENT THAN IS GENERALLY REALISED.
3. THE ARTICLE REFLECTS THE WIDESPREAD BELIEF HERE AMONG GOVERNMENT SYMPATHISERS THAT WESTERN GOVERNMENTS ARE ILL-INFORMED, EITHER WILLFULLY OR BY NEGLECT, OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT'S REFORM PROGRAMME, AND IN PARTICULAR ITS EFFORTS TO ENGAGE BLACKS IN MOVES TOWARDS POWER-SHARING.

MOBERLY

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