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 FM PRETORIA
 TO PRIORITY FCO
 TELNO 264
 OF 211540Z AUGUST 1986
 INFO ROUTINE CAPE TOWN EMBASSY, JOHANNESBURG.

Prime Minister (2)
MBA
MS

BISHOP TUTU

1. AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON 20 AUGUST, A LIST OF FOREIGN GUESTS INVITED TO THE ENTHRONEMENT OF BISHOP TUTU AS ANGLICAN ARCHBISHOP OF CAPE TOWN ON 7 SEPTEMBER WAS RELEASED BY THE CONVENOR OF THE ENTHRONEMENT. HE ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT THE CEREMONY WOULD BE TELEVISED LIVE ROUND THE WORLD. IT HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE KNOWN THAT NO SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT OR OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES HAD BEEN INVITED, NOR HAD SABC BEEN ASKED TO PROVIDE COVERAGE.
2. THE LIST OF 30 OR MORE GUESTS FROM THE UK INCLUDES THE ARCHBISHOPS OF CANTERBURY AND YORK, THE BISHOPS OF LICHFIELD, COVENTRY, BIRMINGHAM, AND LIVERPOOL AND DEAN OF ST PAUL'S, AS WELL AS OTHER CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES AND PERSONAL FRIENDS OF TUTU INCLUDING MARTIN KENYON. THERE ARE AT LEAST TWO, BISHOP HUDDLESTON AND REV BRIAN BROWN (BRITISH COUNCIL OF CHURCHES), WHO COULD BE VIEWED AS CONTROVERSIAL FIGURES BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES. THE ENTHRONEMENT ORGANISERS TELL US THAT APART FROM POSITIVE REPLIES FROM THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY AND WAITE THEY HAVE SO FAR RECEIVED NO RESPONSES.
3. THE LIST OF OVER 200 AMERICAN GUESTS INCLUDES POLITICIANS (EG SENATOR KENNEDY), POP STARS AND OTHER PUBLIC CELEBRITIES.
4. IN REACTION TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE GUEST LIST, THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS, STOFFEL BOTHA, HAS REVEALED CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN BISHOP TUTU AND HIMSELF. BISHOP TUTU HAD WRITTEN TO SEEK AN ASSURANCE THAT THE GUESTS WOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING VISAS TO ENTER SOUTH AFRICA FOR THE ENTHRONEMENT. BOTHA HAD REPLIED STATING THAT THERE WAS NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO GUESTS ATTENDING THE ENTHRONEMENT, BUT THAT HE WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO GIVE AN ASSURANCE THAT ALL WOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING VISAS. APPLICATIONS WOULD BE CONSIDERED INDIVIDUALLY AND BE DEALT WITH AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE.
5. THE LATEST CONTRETEMPS COMES AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF MOUNTING GOVERNMENT IRRITATION AT TUTU'S ADVOCACY OF SANCTIONS DURING HIS CURRENT TOUR OF JAPAN, CHINA AND JAMAICA. DURING THE FEDERAL NP CONGRESS ON 13 AUGUST, THE MINISTER OF MANPOWER, PIETIE DU PLESSIS, GAVE A 'FRIENDLY WARNING' TO TUTU, NOTING THAT CALLS FOR ECONOMIC SANCTIONS BORDERED ON HIGH TREASON. PUBLIC STATEMENTS WHICH MIGHT ENCOURAGE THE IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS ARE OF COURSE PROHIBITED UNDER THE EMERGENCY REGULATIONS. PREDICTABLY, THE CP AND HNP HAVE BEEN CALLING FOR ACTION AGAINST TUTU, SUCH AS THE WITHDRAWAL OF HIS PASSPORT.

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6. IT IS MOST UNLIKELY THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE ANY SUCH ACTION. IF ANYONE IS IMMUNE, IT MUST BE TUTU, THE GOVERNMENT BEING WELL AWARE OF THE INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC OUTCRY WHICH ANY ACTION WOULD PROVOKE. THERE IS ALSO STILL THE ENIGMA OF TUTU'S MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT BOTHA IN JUNE AND JULY, ABOUT WHICH TUTU CONTINUES TO BE TIGHT-LIPPED. THE GOVERNMENT COULD FACE DIFFICULTIES IF LARGE NUMBERS OF CONTROVERSIAL GUESTS DO APPEAR FOR THE ENTHRONEMENT, AND IN ANY CASE, AS A WORLD-WIDE MEDIA EVENT, IT WILL ATTRACT MANY OUTSIDE PRESS AND OTHER VISITORS WHO MAY BE HARD TO CONTROL.

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