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File Ho
cc: JPC

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

23 July 1987

ANC/APRIKANER MEETING AT DAKAR:
REPLY TO THE MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT DIOUF

Thank you for your letter of 23 July enclosing a proposed oral reply from the Prime Minister to President Diouf's message asking her to intervene with President Botha to assure the safety of the Afrikaner group on its return to South Africa. I agree that our Ambassador should reply in the terms proposed.

CHARLES POWELL

Lyn Parker Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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CP

SCF



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

23 July 1987

Dear Charles,

ANC/Afrikaner Meeting at Dakar: Message to the
Prime Minister from President Diouf

at trap

In FCO telno 247 to Kingston we informed you of a message from President Diouf in which he sought the Prime Minister's intervention with President Botha to assure the safety of the Afrikaner group on its return to South Africa.

Our Charge d'Affaires spoke to the South African DFA on the morning on 20 July as instructed in the telegram. She was told that it was unlikely that criminal charges would be brought against members of the group, and that the police would ensure that law and order was maintained when the group arrive at Johannesburg airport. Although there was a rowdy demonstration at the airport on 21 July involving scuffles between the far-right AWB and students, a strong police presence was on hand and the IDASA group were not involved or harmed.

I enclose a draft telegram to Dakar, which the Foreign Secretary has seen, with instructions to our Ambassador to convey an oral reply to President Diouf on the Prime Minister's behalf. If you are content, we shall despatch this immediately.

Yours ever,

L Parker

(L Parker)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
PS/10 Downing Street

OUT TELEGRAM

		Classification CONFIDENTIAL	Caveat	Precedence IMMEDIATE
ZCZC	1	ZCZC		
TC	2	CONFIDENTIAL		
CAVEAT	3			
FM	4	FM FCO		
TO	5	TO IMMEDIATE DAKAR		
TELNO	6	TELNO		
OF	7	OF 211400Z JULY 87		
AND TO	8	INFO IMMEDIATE PRETORIA, CAPE TOWN, JOHANNESBURG, WASHINGTON		
	9	AND TO INFO IMMEDIATE BONN		
	10	AND TO INFO PRIORITY PARIS		
	11			
	12			
	13	YOUR TELNO 114: MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT DIOUF TO THE PRIME		
	14	MINISTER		
	15			
	16	1. YOU WILL NOW HAVE SEEN FCO TELNO 247 TO KINGSTON AND, IN		
	17	REPLY, PRETORIA TELSNO 133 AND 134 AND WASHINGTON TELXNOS 1545		
	18	AND 1549. WE UNDERSTAND THAT ON THE IDASA GROUP'S RETURN TO		
	19	JOHANNESBURG THERE WAS A STRONG POLICE PRESENCE ON HAND TO		
	20	CONTAIN AN AWB DEMONSTRATION, AND THAT NO HARM CAME TO THE		
	21	GROUP.		
	22			
	23	2. PLEASE NOW CONVEY AN ORAL REPLY TO PRESIDENT DIOUF'S		
	24	MESSAGE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, MAKING CLEAR THAT YOU ARE DOING SO		
	25	ON THE PRIME MINISTER'S BEHALF. YOU SHOULD THANK HIM FOR HIS		
///	26	MESSAGE AND ASSURE HIM THAT THE PRIME MINISTER STRONGLY SUPPORTS		
//	27	PEACEFUL DIALOGUE AS THE BEST MEANS OF ACHIEVING A POLITICAL		
/	28	SOLUTION IN SOUTH AFRICA. YOU SHOULD SAY THAT FOLLOWING RECEIPT		
	29	OF PRESIDENT DIOUF'S MESSAGE WE SPOKE TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN		
YYYY				Catchword:
MAIN	File number	Dept	Drafted by (Block capitals)	Telephone no
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OUT TELEGRAM (CONT)

Classification
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Caveat

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IMMEDIATE

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1 <<<<

2 AUTHORITIES AND MADE THEM FULLY AWARE OF OUR INTEREST IN THE
3 SAFETY OF THE IDASA GROUP ON THEIR RETURN TO SOUTH AFRICA.
4 ALTHOUGH (AS PRESIDENT DIOUF MAY HAVE SEEN ON TV) THERE WERE
5 ROWDY SCENES AT JOHANNESBURG AIRPORT INVOLVING MEMBERS OF THE
6 FAR-RIGHT AWB, THE IDASA GROUP WAS NOT INVOLVED OR HARMED. WE
7 SHALL CONTINUE TO PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO THE FUTURE OF THE GROUP
8 AND HOPE THAT THE MEETING WHICH PRESIDENT DIOUF WAS SO CREDITABLY
9 INVOLVED IN ARRANGING IN DAKAR WILL HELP ACT AS A SPUR TO
10 PEACEFUL POLITICAL CHANGE.

11

12 3. FOR YOUR OWN INFORMATION. WE SOUGHT AND RECEIVED
13 ASSURANCES FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES THAT LAW AND ORDER
14 WOULD BE MAINTAINED AT JOHANNESBURG AIRPORT AND THAT ONCE THE
15 GROUP HAD DISPERSED, THE POLICE WOULD ENFORCE THE LAW AS
16 APPROPRIATE. IT WOULD NOT (NOT) BE HELPFUL IF THESE ASSURANCES
17 WER TO BECOME PUBLIC AND YOU SHOULD NOT REVEAL THEM TO PRESIDENT
18 DIOUF UNLESS YOU ARE CONFIDENT HE WILL MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIALITY.

19

20 HOWE

21

22 YYYY

23 MAIN

24 SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED

25 SAFD

26 WAD

27 COPY TO PS/NO 10

28

29 NNNN

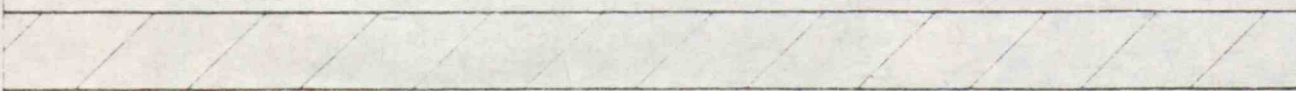
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