

CONFIDENTIAL



File PM 2 AB J
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From the Private Secretary

13 July 1988

*These things are
but done privately -
the more so now Botha
has delayed the Sharpeville
can further not*

SOUTH AFRICA

Prime Minister
Do you have a
reaction to X?

CDD
13/2

Herr Teltschik from the Federal Chancellery in Bonn telephoned me this morning to follow up Chancellor Kohl's discussion on South Africa with the Prime Minister at Chequers. He said that the Chancellor was keen to pursue the idea of an emissary who would speak to President Botha on behalf of both the Prime Minister and the Chancellor. I said that the Prime Minister had this very much in mind. One name which had occurred to her was Mr. Leutweiler but there might well be other suggestions. We would be in touch as soon as possible.

X
Herr Teltschik went on to say that Chancellor Kohl would be issuing a public statement on Friday (for Saturday's press) calling on the South African Government to release Nelson Mandela on the occasion of his 70th birthday and calling for negotiations between the South African Government, Mandela, Chief Buthelezi and others. It would no doubt increase the impact of this if the Prime Minister were to issue a similar statement, although that was of course entirely for her judgment. I said that I would pass on this suggestion. The Prime Minister has in fact made several public references to our belief that the South African Government ought to release Mandela and a further statement now might seem rather artificial. Moreover, she usually took the view that serious representations were best made in private. But we would reflect and I would let him know what conclusion was reached in the course of 14 July.

I should be grateful for early advice.

C. D. POWELL

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