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Cile ECL
cc PC

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From the Private Secretary

14 July 1988

SOUTH AFRICA

Thank you for your letter of 14 July about the possibility of issuing a statement on the occasion of Mr. Mandela's 70th birthday, possibly in conjunction with the German Government. I have discussed this with the Prime Minister who has no objection to the Foreign Secretary issuing the proposed statement but would not wish to do so herself. She continues to take the view that quiet representations are more likely to be effective than public statements. I have tried to contact the Federal Chancellery in Bonn to tell them what we intend. Unfortunately I was unable to do so before 5 pm and as a result was unable to contact anyone. I will try again in the morning.

CHARLES POWELL

Lyn Parker, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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