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Subject: South Africa
P.W. Bong: 4184

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T82-1184

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RR CAPE TOWN
GRS 336
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DESKBY 181400Z
FM FCO 181200Z MAY 84
TO IMMEDIATE MAPUTO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 159 O.F 18 MAY,
INFO CAPE TOWN, WASHINGTON, UKMIS NEW YORK, LISBON
SAVING TO LUANDA

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23 MAY 1984		
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VISIT BY SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER TO THE UK

1. GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT MACHEL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. QUOTE OUR EMBASSY HAS INFORMED YOUR OFFICIALS OF OUR DECISION TO INVITE THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER TO THE UK DURING HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO EUROPE. RECALLING OUR DISCUSSION IN LONDON OF THE PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, I THOUGHT I SHOULD WRITE PERSONALLY TO YOU TO EXPLAIN THE REASONS FOR THIS DECISION.

THERE HAVE RECENTLY BEEN A NUMBER OF ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. THE NKOMATI ACCORD HOLDS OUT HOPE NOT ONLY FOR MOZAMBIQUE BUT FOR ALL THE REGION. THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES FROM SOUTHERN ANGOLA IS NEARLY COMPLETE. BUT MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE IF THESE NEW PROSPECTS OF STABILITY FOR THE REGION ARE TO BE REALISED.

WE WISH TO ENCOURAGE SOUTH AFRICA TO WORK IN THIS DIRECTION. WITHIN SOUTH AFRICA ITSELF, WE CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR SIGNS OF MEANINGFUL CHANGE. WE HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT THE ONLY WAY TO ACHIEVE THESE AIMS IS THROUGH CONTACT AND DIALOGUE.

SINCE MR BOTHA INTENDED TO VISIT EUROPE IN ANY CASE, IT SEEMED WRONG NOT TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO HIM. I SHALL PUT CLEARLY TO HIM OUR VIEWS ON THE ISSUES I HAVE MENTIONED AND SHALL DO SO WITH OUR OWN EXCHANGES CLEARLY IN MIND.

MR BOTHA'S VISIT HERE WILL BE A WORKING ONE. I HAVE MADE CLEAR ALREADY IN PARLIAMENT THAT IT IN NO WAY CONSTITUTES APPROVAL OF SOUTH AFRICA'S POLICIES. BUT I HOPE IT WILL

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CONTRIBUTE TO FURTHER LESSENING OF TENSIONS IN THE REGION. I
HAVE SPOKEN TO THE PORTUGUESE PRIME MINISTER AND THE GERMAN
CHANCELLOR ABOUT MR BOTHA'S VISIT AND KNOW THAT THEY SHARE
MY APPROACH. MR BOTHA, WHO HAS TRAVELLED LITTLE OUTSIDE
SOUTH AFRICA, WILL THUS BE EXPOSED TO SIMILARLY EXPRESSED
VIEWS BY A NUMBER OF WESTERN GOVERNMENTS. I BELIEVE THAT THAT
WILL BE HELPFUL. UNQUOTE.

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