

GPS 381
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Angola

FM LUANDA 140950Z FEB 83
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 99 OF 14 FEBRUARY

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VISIT OF ANGOLAN FOREIGN MINISTER

1. WHEN I GREETED PAULO JORGE AT THE AIRPORT THIS MORNING ON RETURN FROM LONDON HE EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE SATISFACTION WITH THE VISIT. IT HAD BEEN VERY FRUITFUL AND POSITIVE AND (IN HIS WORDS) WOULD OPEN THE WAY TO AN IMPROVEMENT IN BILATERAL RELATIONS. HE HAD VERY MUCH ENJOYED HIS MEETINGS WITH YOU AND WITH MR ONSLOW. HE WAS PARTICULARLY GRATIFIED THAT HE HAD BEEN GIVEN THE HONOUR OF A LONG DISCUSSION WITH THE PRIME MINISTER. (HE EMPHASISED WITH PLEASURE THAT IT HAD LASTED AN HOUR).
2. JORGE WAS DELIGHTED WITH THE EXCELLENT PROGRAMME AND MENTIONED ALL THE ENGAGEMENTS WITH BRITISH MINISTERS AS WELL AS THE MUSICAL AND THE RECEPTION WITH BUSINESSMEN. HE HAS ASKED THE AMBASSADOR FOR A LIST OF ALL WHO ATTENDED THE LATTER. HE SAID THAT WE COULD EXPECT MUCH FOLOW - UP WORK WITH THE OFFICE OF THE S-OF-S FOR COOPERATION.
3. JORGE WAS INTERESTED TO HEAR ABOUT MEDIA COVERAGE IN ANGOLA OF HIS VISIT. I EXPLAINED THAT NEWSPAPER, RADIO AND TV HAD COVERED IT PROMINENTLY EACH DAY BUT SO FAR WITHOUT PICTURES. GRATEFUL IF NEWS DEPT COULD LET US KNOW WHEN WE CAN EXPECT PHOTOS / TV RECORDINGS. HAVE BBC AND ITV BEEN IN DIRECT TOUCH WITH ANGOLAN TV?
4. THE FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTED WITH SOME AMUSEMENT THAT THERE HAD BEEN SEVERAL SOUTH AFRICAN JOURNALISTS AT PRESS CONFERENCE. HE SAID WRYLY THAT BRITISH NEWSPAPER REPORTING HAD CONCENTRATED ON THE MERCENARIES.

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PS/MR. ONSLOW
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MR. SQUIRE

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THIS TELEGRAM
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