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CEPC
B7/9/21/4

26 June 1986

Mr C D Powell
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister
Prime Minister's Office
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1A 2AA

Dear Charles,

The Chief Minister of Lebowa and leader of the Lebowan people, Dr Cedric Phatudi, will be visiting London from 15-18 July 1986.

Dr Phatudi, together with other moderate leaders, has worked hard over a long period to achieve a peaceful political accommodation in South Africa. He will certainly continue to be an important party in future negotiations between the government and community leaders.

In the circumstances we wondered whether the Prime Minister might wish to meet Dr Phatudi while he is in London. Naturally we would adjust Dr Phatudi's programme in London to accommodate an appointment at the Prime Minister's convenience.

I enclose an article in the Johannesburg Sunday Times which may be of interest.
Yours sincerely
L H Evans

L H Evans
MINISTER

Sunday Times

THE PAPER FOR THE PEOPLE

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Mission could have chance of success, says Worrall

THE British Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, was "sensitive" to the situation in South Africa and he had a chance of success where others had failed, Dr Denis Worrall, South African ambassador to London, said yesterday.

At the same time, Dr Worrall urged South Africans to understand that the affairs of their country had become the dominant foreign policy issue in most Western states.

"Whether we like it or not, we look like being the great historical issue of the last quarter of the 20th century," he said.

Praising Sir Geoffrey as a

By EVELYN HOLTZHAUSEN
London

"very fine diplomat", Dr Worrall said in an interview that the success of his peace mission would depend on a number of factors.

These included the timing, how "effective" the state of emergency was and the "mood" of the South African Government at the time.

"A lot will also depend on the relationship which develops between Sir Geoffrey and the South African Government," said Dr Worrall.



DR WORRALL
... historical issue

"But I do not doubt that he has a very difficult assignment."

He said Mrs Thatcher was "temperamentally and intellectually" against sanctions.

"But we must have no doubts about her detestation of what is generally regarded as apartheid."

"We should also understand that in her perception the important thing is to remove the aspects of South African society which alienate black opinion and we should do so by negotiation."

"She introduced a distinction — and it is relatively

□ To Page 2

Howe 'has a chance'

□ From Page 1

new — between measures that will damage the South African economy and measures which will assist to dismantle apartheid and facilitate dialogue.

"That is the approach she took to The Hague this week."

"She is also more conscious than most leaders of the impact of economic measures on South Africa's neighbours and on the British economy."

He said there was an impression that South Africans (whites in particular), more so than the Government, were increasingly weary of "outsiders marching in and clod-hopping around to provide quick-fix solutions".

Dr Worrall said the visit this week by Labour's shadow Foreign Secretary, Mr Denis Healey, "had not helped".

Sensitive

"But," he said, "Sir Geoffrey is a very different personality and a fine diplomat, sensitive to the nuances of the South African situation."

"His interest is to assist the process of reform and dialogue in South Africa and not to score moral and political debating points."

Dr Worrall said the Government had not "formally" responded to the talks between a British junior Minister and ANC leader Oliver Tambo, but it was felt by some that the meeting was a "mistake" in light of the fact that the ANC was clearly committed to violent change, as had been reaffirmed by recent bombing incidents.

Dr Worrall said the recent EPG mission in Africa had failed for a number of reasons, including "inflexibility" and because of the limited time given to accomplish its task.

"There was also a lot of cynicism among certain heads of government and within the Commonwealth Secretariat," he said.