

MR. INGHAM

SOUTH AFRICA

I have discussed a line for the press with the Prime Minister. You might make the following points:

(1) She is very grateful to the Foreign Secretary for carrying out his mission with such patience and steadiness. He will have made clear our detestation of apartheid. The South Africans will also have heard the arguments for change presented lucidly and persuasively.

(2) He will be reporting to her personally later today.

(3) It is no secret that the South Africans dislike outside interference and their immediate reaction is no great surprise. But we need to see to what extent the points made by the Foreign Secretary sink in and are acted upon in practice. We are interested in results - release of Mandela, unbanning of the ANC. There are particular opportunities for the South African Government to move during August and September (i.e. the party congress, etc.). The European Community will assess the situation in late September.

(4) Any decisions on the way forward must wait until after the Foreign Secretary has reported to Cabinet. But it is no less true than before that sanctions are not effective in securing internal reform.

(C. D. POWELL)

30 July 1986



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From the Private Secretary

Prime Minister

South Africa

We need a line for
Bernard to use this morning. I
suggest something on the following
lines:

- ① of course the outcome of the Foreign
Secretary's mission so far is disappointing;
- ② but we can't reach judgements on
a day to day basis. It was no
secret that the South Africans resent and
dislike outside interference. Or that President
Botha was likely to say so.
- ③ the proof of the pudding..... We shall watch

developments in South Africa over the next
month or so very carefully, to see whether
the ideas and proposals put by the
Foreign Secretary bear fruit in practice. There
are important events in August (party congress
etc). Let's see what they produce. If
the South Africans want to say that
they reach decisions on their own
grounds, in their own time, rather than on
the basis of outside advice, that's fine
by us. We are interested in results.

(4) it remains the case that sanctions are
no answer - and more & more people
recognize that reality. If there is to be
progress, it will be through negotiations,
internal negotiations. And sanctions won't help

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that process one job.

(5) But the South African government knows that the industrialized countries are bound to signal their disapproval if there is no progress. This was foreseen at the European Council, which said that further measures might be needed. Further measures - limited & selected measures - are indeed now more likely.

(6) But the aim of those who are interested in peaceful progress in South Africa, rather than in breakdown & chaos, must remain to create the conditions for negotiations. We shall use the remainder of the three months agreed by the European Council for that purpose.

TO DOWNING STREET

If this is broadly right,
perhaps you could let me have it
back in the hall when you leave,
so that I can give it to
Bernard.

C.D.P.

30/7.