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TO SAC: HOUSTON [redacted]
FROM: *DA/MS* [redacted]
LS [redacted]
SUBJECT: NEWS MEDIA ARTICLES
RE SOUTH AFRICA

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ATTACHED AND TO BE CONSIDERED PART OF THE MEMORANDUM IS A COPY
OF AN ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED IN THE JANUARY 9, 1990, EDITION OF THE
"NEW YORK TIMES".

THE ARTICLE IS FOR INFORMATION.

17-HOUSTON

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Mandela Expects to Be Released Soon, His Wife Says



Agence France-Presse

Winnie Mandela autographed a notebook yesterday after visiting her husband, Nelson, outside Cape Town, where he remains under confinement on a prison farm. Mr. Mandela, the long-jailed leader of the African National Congress, asked her to begin arrangements for his release, signaling that he expects to be free within weeks.

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PAARL, South Africa, Jan. 8 (Reuters) — Nelson R. Mandela, the long-imprisoned anti-apartheid leader, indicated today for the first time that he expected to be freed within weeks, his wife said.

His wife, Winnie Mandela, said after a three-hour visit with Mr. Mandela today that he had asked her to begin preliminary arrangements for his release.

It was the first time since his arrest in August 1962 that either Mr. Mandela or his wife had expressed optimism about an imminent release. Previously, Mr. Mandela had told visitors that he had no idea when he would return home.

"This is the real stuff now," Mrs. Mandela told reporters at the gates of the Victor Verster prison farm about 40 miles northeast of Cape Town, where her husband is held in a bungalow previously used by the family of a white guard.

She said, "I don't think we are talking about months any longer."

Conditions for Talks

Some Government officials have said that they expected Mr. Mandela to be released late this month or after Parliament begins work on Feb. 2.

Mrs. Mandela declined to specify which arrangements her husband had asked her to attend to.

Mr. Mandela, 71 years old, is South Africa's most prominent political prisoner. A leader of the African National Congress, the outlawed black nationalist movement, and a founder of its military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe, or Spear of the Nation, he is serving a life prison sentence for a conviction on conspiracy and sabotage charges in 1964.

The congress observed its 78th anniversary in Lusaka, Zambia, today with a statement outlining conditions for talks with the white-dominated Government and calling for stepped-up international action against apartheid.

The movement reaffirmed its com-

mitment to armed opposition to white rule, but offered a cease-fire "as soon as a climate conducive to negotiations is created."

With a family lawyer, Dullah Omar, at her side, Mrs. Mandela acknowledged with a broad smile that today was the first time she had felt any optimism about her husband's release.

I Am Very Hopeful

"I am very hopeful now," she said as she left for a flight to Johannesburg, where she is expected to see members of a nationalist committee set up to coordinate Mr. Mandela's release.

President F. W. de Klerk, who took control of the South African Government in September, has said in newspaper interviews that he intends to release Mandela soon.

He has said that the freeing of Mr. Mandela would be part of his effort to draw blacks into talks on a political system in which no racial group dominates.

Mr. Mandela has repeatedly refused deals for his release offered by the Government, saying through his daughter Zindzi in 1985 that "only, free men can negotiate."

One offer was to release him into internal exile in the Transkei homeland. Another was for freedom in return for his public repudiation of armed struggle against white rule.

Eight of his colleagues, including Walter Sisulu, were freed in October in what many South Africans saw as a move to test the political waters for Mr. Mandela's release.

Jesse Jackson Can Visit

JOHANNESBURG, Jan. 8 (AP) — The Government said today that it would no longer refuse to allow the Rev. Jesse Jackson to visit South Africa.

A brief statement by Foreign Minis-

ter Roelof F. Botha gave no indication of when Mr. Jackson, a bitter critic of apartheid, might come to South Africa.

Mr. Jackson has visited several countries in the region but his requests

for a visa to go to South Africa were always turned down.

Mr. Jackson recently met in Washington with South Africa's Ambassador to the United States, Piet W. Koornhof.

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