

~~SECRET//NF~~

ENVELOPE

(b)(3):10 USC 424

HEADER

P
280408Z JUL 90
FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEALGX/SAFE

(b)(3):10 USC 424

P
280031Z JUL 90
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC/

(b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

RUVESLA/USCINCSpace PETERSON AFB CO/

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

BT

CONTROLS

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

~~NOFORN~~

(b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i);(b)(6)

SERIAL: DSA 62-9U

BODY

SUBJ: SOUTH AFRICA: WILL THE TALKS GO ON? ~~(C/NF)~~
DOI: 27 JUL 90

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KEY POINTS
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1. ~~(C/NF)~~ PRESIDENT DE KLERK HAS REPORTEDLY TOLD ANC DEPUTY PRESIDENT MANDELA THAT COMMUNIST LEADER JOE SLOVO IS NOT WELCOME AT THE NEXT ROUND OF TALKS ON 6 AUGUST.

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2. ~~(C/NF)~~ MOUNTING EVIDENCE POINTS TO AN INSURRECTIONIST OPERATION OUTSIDE THE ANC'S NORMAL CHAIN OF COMMAND BEING RUN BY ANC RADICALS AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN COMMUNIST PARTY.

3. ~~(C/NF)~~ GOVERNMENT STATEMENTS PROBABLY ARE INTENDED TO STRENGTHEN MODERATE ELEMENTS OF THE ANC AND TO DRIVE A WEDGE BETWEEN THEM AND THE RADICALS.

4. ~~(C/NF)~~ A PURGE OF RADICAL ELEMENTS WOULD SPLIT THE ANC AND HINDER NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE WHITE MINORITY GOVERNMENT.

5. ~~(C/NF)~~ THE ANTI-APARTHEID OPPOSITION MAY BE MORE DEEPLY FRACTURED THAN PREVIOUSLY BELIEVED, BUT ANC LEADERS APPEAR COMMITTED TO FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS WITH PRETORIA.

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DISCUSSION

(b)(1);Sec. 1.4(c);Sec. 1.4(d)

7. ~~(C/NF)~~ SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE (SAP) AND SECURITY OFFICIALS HAVE ANNOUNCED THE ARREST OF ABOUT 40 PERSONS CHARGED WITH INFILTRATING GUERRILLAS AND WEAPONS INTO THE COUNTRY. SENIOR ANC LEADERS HAVE NOT

DENIED THE CHARGES, BUT HAVE ARGUED THAT THE INFILTRATIONS TOOK PLACE BEFORE THE GROOTE SCHUUR MEETING AT WHICH THE INSURGENTS AGREED TO REEXAMINE THE ARMED STRUGGLE.

(b)(1);Sec. 1.4
(c);Sec. 1.4(d)

9. ~~(C/NF)~~ FOLLOWING 2 DAYS OF CONSULTATIONS BY THE ANC RULING NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (NEC) ON 25 JULY, THE OPPOSITION LEADERS APPEARED CONFIDENT THAT TALKS WITH PRETORIA WOULD BE HELD ON

6 AUGUST AS SCHEDULED. THEY ALSO SEEMED CERTAIN THAT THIS WOULD LEAD

TO ADDITIONAL PROGRESS TOWARDS FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS FOR A NEW POLITICAL DISPENSATION IN SOUTH AFRICA. WHETHER THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS WILL DELAY THE TALKS IS NOT CLEAR.

10. ~~(C/NF)~~ THE ANC LEADERS, HOWEVER, HAVE BEEN QUICK TO DISMISS

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BASELESS REPORTS OF A PLOT BY MEMBERS OF THE GROUP'S ARMED WING, UMKHONTO WE SIZWE, OR MK, AND THE SACP TO SEIZE POWER BY FORCE. MANDELA CLAIMED THE PRESS HAD TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT STATEMENTS BY CHRIS HANI, MK CHIEF OF STAFF AND SACP MEMBER, THAT THE MK WAS PREPARED TO USE FORCE IF THE WHITE MINORITY GOVERNMENT FAILED TO NEGOTIATE A PEACEFUL TRANSFER OF POWER.

11. ~~(C/NF)~~ PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY CHRIS HANI INDICATE THAT HE IS WILLING TO OPERATE INDEPENDENTLY OF THE ESTABLISHED ANC LEADERSHIP. HANI AND OTHER RADICAL MK MEMBERS MAY HAVE ACTED IN THIS MATTER TO ENSURE THE PAROCHIAL INTERESTS OF THE ANC'S ARMED WING, DESPITE THE INCREASED POSSIBILITY THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH PRETORIA WOULD SUCCEED IN BRINGING ABOUT AN END TO APARTHEID.

12. ~~(C/NF)~~ THE TIMING OF THESE CHARGES LINKING THE SACP WITH A PLOT TO SEIZE POWER AND ASSASSINATE ITS OPPONENTS COMES JUST BEFORE THE SACP'S FIRST PUBLIC RALLY IN SOUTH AFRICA ON 29 JULY. PRETORIA MAY HOPE TO DRIVE A WEDGE BETWEEN THE SACP AND THE ANC, AND TO PUT ADDITIONAL PRESSURE ON THE ANC TO PUBLICLY SUSPEND ITS ARMED STRUGGLE. REPORTS THAT OPERATION VULA INCLUDED CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR

A NATIONAL INSURRECTION, PRECIPITATED BY THE ASSASSINATION OF NELSON

MANDELA SEEM EXTREME, BUT RADICAL MK ELEMENTS ARE NOT ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORTERS OF MANDELA'S POLICY OF NEGOTIATIONS AND PROBABLY VIEW THE

72-YEAR-OLD OPPOSITION LEADER TO BE AS SUCH A HINDRANCE AS A ASSET TO THEIR CAUSE.

13. ~~(C/NF)~~ REPORTS ABOUT OPERATION VULA ARE BACKED BY MAC MAHARAJ, A MEMBER OF THE NEC AND SACP WHO WAS ARRESTED ON 25 JULY.

(b)(1);Sec.
1.4(c);Sec.
1.4(d)

14. ~~(C/NF)~~ MANDELA IS UNLIKELY TO TAKE ANY EXTREME ACTION AGAINST THE SACP, BUT IS LIKELY TO PLACE MK UNDER INCREASED OVERSIGHT. HE MAY SUSPEND THE ARMED STRUGGLE AND REMOVE SOME MK OFFICIALS, BUT HE RUNS THE RISK OF ALIENATING THE RADICALS AND PUSHING THEM INTO OTHER

GROUPS SUCH AS THE PAN-AFRICANIST CONGRESS. AGREEING TO BAN SLOVO FROM THE TALKS WILL ALSO BE A PROBLEM WITHIN THE ANC. THE MEETING COULD BE DELAYED IF THE NEC BELIEVES IT MUST DEBATE THE ISSUE.

(b)
(1);Sec.
1.4(d)

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ADMIN

(b)(3):10 USC 424

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