

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

McGroarty/Dooley
June 21, 1990
9:00 am
[MANDELA]

90 JUN 21 A 9: 28

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE STATEMENT FOR VISIT OF
NELSON MANDELA
SOUTH LAWN
JUNE 25, 1990
1:15 PM

Welcome, all of you. / It has been my great pleasure today to welcome to the White House a man of great moral courage -- a man who embodies the hopes of millions: // **Nelson Mandela.** //

This afternoon, Mr. Mandela and I have spoken frankly about the future of South Africa. Productive discussions, that I hope will contribute to positive change -- toward true democracy, and the dismantling -- once and for all -- of apartheid. //

We meet at a time of transition for South Africa. We applaud the recent steps President De Klerk and the Government of South Africa have taken to expand the rights and freedoms of South Africa's blacks. / These are positive developments -- steps toward the fully free and democratic future we all wish to see for the people of South Africa. /

In order for progress to continue, we must see on all sides a clear commitment to change. **From the government** -- a readiness to work with all elements of South African society to build a new system, based on equal rights for all -- regardless of race. // **From the opponents of apartheid** -- a willingness to recognize positive change on the Government's part with an equal measure of good will. //

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PER NSC WAIVER # 2021-02
By MM NARA, Date 7/16/2021

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And finally, **from all parties** -- we look for a clear and unequivocal commitment to **peaceful means of change**. I call on all elements in South African society to renounce the use of violence and armed struggle. Break free from the cycle of repression and violent reaction that breeds nothing but more fear and suffering for South Africa. In the words of the great Martin Luther King, "Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom, by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred." //

Mr. Mandela, in the eyes of your countrymen and around the world, you stand against apartheid -- against a system that bases the rights and freedoms of citizenship on the color of one's skin. That system is repugnant to the conscience of men and women everywhere -- repugnant to the ideals we in America hold dear.

No system that denies the rights that belong to each and every individual can endure forever. / Apartheid must end. //

The United States is ready to do its part to encourage peaceful change and an end to racial oppression. We will continue our \$30 million dollar aid program to help disenfranchised South Africans complete their studies, and build leadership skills. And we will soon add another \$10 million dollars to assist the process of democratization in South Africa. // We will continue to urge American firms doing business in South Africa to play a progressive role in transforming racial attitudes and practices in the work place. //

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But while the reform process **has** moved forward, the time **has not yet come to lift our economic sanctions.** // Sanctions will remain in place -- and will be lifted only in response to clear signs of additional progress, and in a way that promotes the negotiation process. //

Mr. Mandela, we in this country admire and understand your struggle. America has fought its own battles to uphold the standard of equal rights. As a nation half-slave and half-free, we fought a bloody civil war. A century later, we waged a new struggle -- the long battle for the very soul of a nation. From the jail cells in Birmingham -- to the streets of Selma -- to the steps of the monument of the Great Emancipator. //

[[Just a few moments ago, Mr. Mandela and I stood together in the Lincoln bedroom, at the desk where Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation -- that "great beacon light of hope." In that room -- even now -- **we feel the power of the undeniable truth that guided Lincoln's hand: that all men must be free.**]]

Mr. Mandela, you said many years ago, before the first of your 10,000 days in prison, that there is "no easy walk to freedom." / Your years of suffering -- your nation's suffering -- have borne that out. But just as, this past year, so many millions of people in Eastern Europe and here in this hemisphere tasted freedom -- so too, South Africa's time will come. //

As Martin Luther King said on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial: "We cannot walk alone." / Mr. Mandela, we here in

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America walk with you -- as we walk with all men and women who seek democracy, human rights -- and freedom. //

Once again, it has been my privilege to welcome you to Washington, and to the White House. God bless you -- and may God bless the people of South Africa.

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We meet at a time of transition for South Africa. We applaud the recent steps President De Klerk and the Government of South Africa have taken to expand the rights and freedoms of all South Africa's blacks. / These are positive developments -- steps toward the fully free and democratic future we all wish to see for the people of South Africa. /

In order for progress to continue, we must see on all sides a clear commitment to change, ~~From the government~~ a readiness

All parties must seize the opportunity to move ahead in a spirit of compromise, tolerance, patience and flexibility.

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And finally, from all parties -- we look for a clear and unequivocal commitment to ^{negotiation for} ~~peaceful means of change~~. I call on all elements in South African society to renounce the use of violence and armed struggle. Break free from the cycle of repression and violent reaction that breeds nothing but more fear and suffering for South Africa. In the words of the great Martin Luther King, "Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom, by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred." //

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No system that denies the rights that belong to each and every individual can endure forever. / Apartheid must end. //

The United States is ready to do its part to encourage ^{rapid and} ~~peaceful change and an end to racial oppression~~ ^{toward political and economic freedom}. We will continue our \$30 million dollar aid program to help disenfranchised South Africans complete their studies, and build leadership skills. And we will soon add another \$10 million dollars to assist the process of democratization in South Africa. // We will continue to urge American firms doing business in South Africa to play a progressive role in ^{training and empowering blacks and building a} ~~transforming racial attitudes and practices~~ ^{foundation for future prosperity} in the work place. //

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But while the reform process **has** moved forward, apartheid remains a reality, and genuine democracy a dream. Until this changes, we will not be able to have a normal relationship with South Africa, and restrictions and sanctions will continue. Our sanctions have been designed to support change, and when the conditions in our law have been met, we will look carefully to see whether modifying our policy will promote further change through peaceful negotiations.

Mr. Mandela, we in this country admire and understand your struggle. America has fought its own battles to uphold the standard of equal rights. ^{BUT} As a nation half-slave and half-free, we fought a bloody civil war. A century later, we waged a new struggle -- the long battle for the very soul of a nation. From the jail cells in Birmingham -- to the streets of Selma -- to the steps of the monument of the Great Emancipator. //

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Our Revolution gave birth to a constitutional democracy, providing for majority rule and minority rights.

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