

CLEAR 1 GG 2 AM  
3 RP 4 RN 5 WK  
6 S/S 7 SSO 8 NSC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CROSSHATCH

AF/S:MGMC GEEHAN:SXR  
05/13/91 647-8432 SESC 1407  
AF/:JDAVIDOW

AF/S:GGALLUCCI  
AF/S:RPERITO  
S/P:WKANSTEINER  
S/S-0:

AF/S:AMCKEE  
P:RNORLAND  
S/S:  
NSC:

IMMEDIATE CAPE TOWN

IMMEDIATE PRETORIA, DURBAN PRIORITY, JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY,  
LONDON PRIORITY, MASERU, MBABANE, LUSAKA, HARARE, WINDHOEK, MAPUTO

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY//LONDON FOR MCKINLEY

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: OPDC, SF

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM PRESIDENT BUSH TO CHIEF BUTHELEZI

1. ~~/~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. PLEASE DELIVER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THE FOLLOWING  
LETTER FROM PRESIDENT BUSH TO CHIEF MINISTER BUTHELEZI.  
NO/REPEAT NO SIGNED ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW. THE WHITE HOUSE  
DOES NOT PLAN TO RELEASE THIS LETTER, BUT DOES NOT OBJECT  
IF CHIEF BUTHELEZI WISHES TO DO SO.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. CHIEF MINISTER:

IN RECENT WEEKS IT HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY APPARENT THAT  
VIOLENCE IS PLACING THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS IN SOUTH  
AFRICA AT RISK.

I AM STILL CONVINCED THAT THERE IS TREMENDOUS CAUSE FOR  
HOPE IN SOUTH AFRICA. HOWEVER, I BELIEVE YOUR COUNTRY IS  
NOW AT A CRITICAL JUNCTURE. IF THE CURRENT VIOLENCE IS  
ALLOWED TO CONTINUE, A PEACEFUL NEGOTIATED SOLUTION MAY  
NOT BE POSSIBLE.

I APPRECIATE THAT YOU HAVE TAKEN STEPS TO END THE

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DECLASSIFIED  
PER DOS WAIVER, November 6, 2015  
By MM NARA, Date 1/27/2022

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2

*no doubt false*

VIOLENCE, INCLUDING YOUR MEETINGS WITH OTHER POLITICAL LEADERS AND YOUR ASSISTANCE IN ESTABLISHING LOCALLY BASED PEACE INITIATIVES. HOWEVER, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT INCIDENTS SUCH AS THE RECENT ATTACK BY ZULU HOSTEL DWELLERS ON KAGISO TOWNSHIP INDICATE THAT MORE EFFORTS ARE NEEDED. UNFORTUNATELY, INCIDENTS LIKE THIS ALSO GIVE THE WORLD THE IMPRESSION THAT THE ZULU PEOPLE DO NOT REALLY WANT PEACE AND NEGATIVELY IMPACT UPON THE IMAGE OF INKATHA.

THE CURRENT SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA CALLS FOR STATESMANSHIP ON THE PART OF ALL CONCERNED. THE POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS OF INKATHA, AND OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, CAN AND SHOULD BE ADDRESSED AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE. THE UNITED STATES, AS AN INTERESTED AND SYMPATHETIC OBSERVER TO THIS PROCESS, LOOKS TO YOU FOR THE LEADERSHIP NEEDED TO RESTRAIN THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTS OF VIOLENCE IN ORDER TO REAFFIRM YOUR COMMITMENT TO PEACEFUL NEGOTIATION. IN THIS REGARD, I URGE YOU TO DEMONSTRATE YOUR STATESMANSHIP BY TAKING THE LEAD ON THE QUESTION OF THE SO-CALLED "TRADITIONAL WEAPONS" BY ACCEPTING THE NEED TO FOREGO BEARING ANY OF THEM IN PUBLIC DURING THESE TENSE TIMES.

I LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING THESE AND OTHER ISSUES WITH YOU DIRECTLY WHEN WE MEET NEXT MONTH. MEANWHILE, I AM SURE THAT YOU AND OTHER RESPONSIBLE SOUTH AFRICAN LEADERS WILL FIND WAYS TO DEAL CONSTRUCTIVELY WITH THE ISSUE OF VIOLENCE AND MOVE AHEAD TO FULL NEGOTIATIONS ON A NON-RACIAL AND DEMOCRATIC SOUTH AFRICA.

SINCERELY,  
GEORGE BUSH

END TEXT. YY

*go the extra mile on these issues in the interest of peace. I would ask you to*

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TALKING POINTS

- o South Africa has undergone dramatic changes since our meeting last year. I understand that you will be calling on a number of old friends in Congress and in the business community. Your visit here comes at a turning point in South Africa's history and relations with the U.S., and will provide for a useful exchange of views on all sides.

Sanctions

- o The US continues to believe that the process of change in South Africa, while not without its stresses and strains, is irreversible. We are hopeful that as all sides build on the progress that has been made in the past 18 months, a non-racial democracy will soon emerge.
- o It is therefore important that we look to the future and begin to explore ways of helping South Africa achieve the strong economic growth necessary to support a stable transition from a system which benefits mainly a minority, to one which allows equal opportunity to all while beginning to redress past imbalances.
- o We have long recognized that once the transition process got well underway, renewed external contacts, trade and communication would play a vital role in encouraging continued progress and laying a sound economic basis for renewed growth in post-apartheid South Africa.
- o It appears that de Klerk will meet the remaining conditions set by the CAAA for the lifting of sanctions by mid-July.
- o The South African government must still release "all persons persecuted for their political beliefs or detained unduly without trial", a process still underway. The government repealed the Group Areas Act in early June, and must also repeal the Population Registration Act without instituting other measures with the same purposes.
- o We will also seek ways to help stimulate the renewed capital flow into South Africa needed to generate high rates of economic growth. We are proud to note that American companies currently active in South Africa have led the way in demonstrating how business and equal opportunity reinforce each other.

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Negotiations

- o The US stands ready, as necessary and appropriate, to offer whatever assistance we can to help bring negotiations in South Africa to a successful outcome.
- o We believe the achievement of a genuine multi-party and non-racial democracy, supported by a free-market economy, to be vital to South Africa's stability and prosperity.
- o This result will depend on participation in the process by political leaders across the political spectrum. We applaud the Inkatha Freedom Party's decision to participate in the proposed all parties conference to discuss how to move into negotiations. We have urged the ANC and other groups to follow your example.

Violence

- o As I wrote to you in May, we are concerned that violence may place the otherwise promising peace process in South Africa at risk. No one party is to blame for the violence; sufficient blame exists in all quarters. We have called on all parties to restrain those who engage in violent acts and to address their political aspirations at the negotiating table.
- o Inkatha--and you personally--have long been viewed by the U.S. as an essential part of the solution to the South African dilemma. We therefore look to you to stand above the fray and to show leadership on the issue of violence, as well as in other areas.
- o We have noted with appreciation the positive efforts made by Inkatha and other parties in recent weeks to put aside differences and to approach the violence problem in a positive fashion. In particular, the Inkatha Freedom Party's participation in last month's government-sponsored conference on violence and your personal cooperation with de Klerk to resolve the issue of the carrying in public of "traditional weapons" were noted here.
- o It is our hope that as progress is made on the violence issue, an atmosphere of cooperation will emerge that will serve all parties in good stead once talks on a new constitution begin.