

GRS 470
UNCLASSIFIED
FM CAPE TOWN 140755Z JUN 85
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 215 OF 14 JUNE 1985
INFO IMMEDIATE PRETORIA, WASHINGTON, GABORONE, UKMYS NEW YORK

Woods on it
the PLO are not training
for international terrorism -
I see no possibility of receiving here
anyone representing them - even a mixed delegation

TELECON ARCHER/RESIDENT CLERK: SOUTH AFRICAN RAID ON GABORONE

SUMMARY

1. APPROACHED FOR COMMENT BY THE SABC ABOUT THIS MORNING'S (14 JUNE) SADF RAID ON GABORONE, SA FOREIGN MINISTER, PIK BOTHA, SAID THE BOTSWANA GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN WARNED REPEATEDLY BY THE GOVERNMENT AND OTHER SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES TO CURTAIL THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ANC INSIDE BOTSWANA.

DETAIL

2. TEXT OF PIK BOTHA'S COMMENTS IS AS FOLLOWS:
BEGINS:

PIK BOTHA SAID THE BOTSWANA GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN WARNED REPEATEDLY BY THE GOVERNMENT AND OTHER SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES TO CURTAIL THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ANC INSIDE BOTSWANA, AND IN PARTICULAR THE PLANNING AND EXECUTION OF TERRORIST ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA FROM BOTSWANA. MOREOVER, THE BOTSWANA GOVERNMENT, ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS, HAD HAD ITS ATTENTION DRAWN TO THE INFILTRATION OF ANC TERRORISTS INTO SOUTH AFRICA FROM OTHER COUNTRIES THROUGH BOTSWANA TERRITORY. THE BOTSWANA GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN REQUESTED TO TAKE APPROPRIATE STEPS TO PREVENT SUCH INFILTRATION.

3. PIK BOTHA REFERRED TO A DISCUSSION AT JAN SMUTS AIRPORT ON 21 APRIL 1983 BETWEEN HIMSELF AND THE FORMER BOTSWANA FOREIGN MINISTER, MR ARCHIE MOGWE. HE SAID THAT MR MOGWE HAD BEEN GIVEN A LIST OF NAMES OF ANC TERRORISTS IN BOTSWANA TOGETHER WITH AN INDICATION OF THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE PLANNING AND INTENDED EXECUTION OF VIOLENCE IN SOUTH AFRICA. MR MOGWE HAD BEEN URGED TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION. IN MARCH 1984 THE BOTSWANA GOVERNMENT HAD ACCEPTED A SOUTH AFRICAN PROPOSAL THAT THE SECURITY FORCES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES WOULD DESIGN MEASURES TO PREVENT THE PLANNING AND EXECUTION OF ACTS OF VIOLENCE, SABOTAGE AND TERRORISM AGAINST EACH OTHER. PIK BOTHA REFERRED TO A PUBLIC STATEMENT HE MADE IN SEPTEMBER 1984 IN RESPONSE TO CERTAIN REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO PRESIDENT MASIRE OF BOTSWANA. HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT OF BOTSWANA HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO REACH AN ACCEPTABLE UNDERSTANDING WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT ON THE COMBATING OF AZERFF TERROR IN SOUTH AFRICA FROM BOTSWANA TERRITORY. PIK BOTHA THEREFORE ISSUED A WARNING THAT SOUTH AFRICA RESERVED THE RIGHT TO TAKE STEPS TO PREVENT ACTS OF TERROR AND SABOTAGE FROM BEING PLANNED AND EXECUTED FROM NEIGHBOURING STATES.

4. PIK BOTHA SAID THAT FROM AUGUST 1984 THE ANC HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR 36 ACTS OF TERROR AND VIOLENCE WHICH HAD BEEN PLANNED AND EXECUTED FROM BOTSWANA. DURING THIS PERIOD 6 PERSONS HAD BEEN MUDERED AND EXTENSIVE DAMAGE HAD BEEN CAUSED TO A POWER STATIBN NEAR RUSTENBERG AND THE PROPERTIES OF SOUTH AFRICANS. HE SAID THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANISATION HAVE FOR SOME TIME PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE TRAINING OF ANC TERRORISTS. THE GRENADE ATTACK ON THE DEPUTY MINISTER-DESIGNATE, MR LUWELLYN LANDERS, AND THE NATIONAL SECRETARY OF THE LABOUR PARTY, MR FRED PIETERS, HAD FOLLOWED A TYPICAL PLO PATTERN. PIK BOTHA POINTED OUT THAT PEACE AND STABILITY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA COULD ONLY BE MAINTAINED IF TERRORISTS AND THEIR SUPPORTERS INTENT ON THE OVERTHROW BY FORCE OF A SOVEREIGN FGOVERNMENT WERE NOT (NOT) HARBOURED IN THE TERRITORY OF A NEIGHBOURING SOVEREIGN STATE WITH OR WITHOUT THAT STATE'S KNOWLEDGE OR CONSENT. PIK BOTHA SAID IT WAS FOR THIS REASON THAT HE ONCE AGAIN MADE AN EARNEST APPEAL TO THE BOTSWANA GOVERNMENT TO GIVE URGENT ATTENTION TO THE PROBLEM WITH A VIEW TO REACHING AN UNDERSTANDING ON SOME EFFECTIVE AND PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE SECURITY FORCES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES TO ENSURE THAT THE TERRITORY OF NEITHER WAS USED FOR THE PLANNING OR EXECUTION OF ACTS OF TERRORISM OR SABOTAGE AGAINST THE OTHER.

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MOBERLY

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