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Dear President,

Your Ambassador and Mr. de Kock came to have a talk with my cousin, Evelyn de Rothschild, and me this morning. They suggested that the views I expressed, on behalf of Evelyn and myself, should be transmitted to you by means of this letter.

Rothschilds and South Africa have been good friends for some hundred years and we hope that this friendship will continue. We feel, however, it is essential that you, President, should publicly state, as a matter of the greatest urgency, that you have decided (not "intend") to renounce apartheid, but in an orderly fashion. That is the end of the message to the world.

I believe that this message will be applauded throughout the world and will cause a relaxation of tension and of the associated technical problems.

My cousin Evelyn and I are very well aware of the problems associated with such an announcement: but it is essential and very urgent.

*Yes
Rothschild*

President Botha