

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL T65/88



SUBJECT

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10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

9 May 1988

Dear Mr. President,

I wanted to say to you how glad I was to see your references in your speech in Parliament on 21 April to a renewed commitment to carry forward the process of reform. I look forward to seeing how your ideas for black participation in central government develop in practice and I hope that you will feel able to extend them into other areas such as black representation in Parliament. I know that you are also considering amendment of the Group Areas Act and hope that this too will soon be carried through. I do not at all underestimate the political courage which you have already demonstrated and which will be required in even greater measure to carry your ideas through into concrete propositions of a sort which will bring black leaders with genuine support into serious negotiation with your government. I wish you success in this.

I was encouraged to hear of recent contacts between the South African and Mozambican governments, culminating in your own meeting last month with Minister Veloso. We have been encouraging President Chissano to join you in seeking ways of returning to the spirit of the Nkomati Accord. I hope that the process of high level co-operation between South Africa and Mozambique which has now been resumed will lead to concrete results.

I also welcome the recent talks in London between delegations from South Africa, the United States and Angola, with Cubans also present. We were glad to help in arranging the talks.

Obviously, this new process is still at an early stage, but it seems to have made a good start. It would be a major prize to secure the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola and an internationally accepted settlement in Namibia.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

The Honourable P. W. Botha