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ORIAL: (U)

DDY

COUNTRY: (U) SOUTH AFRICA (SF).

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BJ: CONCERNS OF SOUTH AFRICAN DIPLOMATS

BROAD OVER THE HEALTH OF PRESIDENT NELSON MANDELA (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED ~~SECRET NOFORN~~.

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(b)(1); (b)(3):10 USC 424; 1.4 (c)

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

[Redacted]

(b)(1); 1.4 (c) SUMMARY: (S/NF) [Redacted] PRESIDENT MANDELA'S TRIPS ABROAD TO STIMULATE INVESTMENT IN THE COUNTRY HAVE TAKEN A TOLL ON HIS HEALTH. MANY WORRY ABOUT A FUTURE WITHOUT MANDELA AT THE HELM.

(b)(1); 1.4 (c) TEXT: 1. (S/NF) [Redacted] AS OF LATE JULY 1995, OFFICIALS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN DEPARTMENT OF

(b)(1); 1.4 (c) FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DFA) [Redacted] CONCERNS THAT PRESIDENT NELSON ((MANDELA'S)) HEALTH IS DETERIORATING. THESE [Redacted] THAT ANY DETERIORATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S

(b)(1); 1.4 (c) HEALTH IS THE RESULT OF THE FRENZIED PACE OF FOREIGN TRAVEL UNDERTAKEN BY MANDELA OVER THE PAST YEAR IN ORDER TO STIMULATE FOREIGN INVESTMENT

(b)(1); 1.4 (c) IN SOUTH AFRICA. [Redacted] DOUBTED THAT HE 77-YEAR OLD MANDELA WILL SURVIVE HIS FIVE-YEAR TERM AS PRESIDENT WITHOUT SUFFERING A COLLAPSE.

(b)(1); 1.4 (c) (S/NF) [Redacted] PRESIDENT MANDELA RECENTLY CANCELED SCHEDULED TRIPS TO RUSSIA AND PAKISTAN. THE GOVERNMENTS OF RUSSIA AND PAKISTAN WERE INFORMED BY THE DFA THAT PRESIDENT MANDELA WAS FORCED TO CHANGE HIS TRAVEL PLANS IN ORDER TO ADDRESS INTERNAL CRISES IN SOUTH AFRICA. HOWEVER, IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES FROM DIPLOMATIC POSTS ABROAD CONCERNING THE NATURE OF THE INTERNAL

(b)(1); 1.4 (c) CRISES AT HOME, THE DFA CONFIDENTIALLY INFORMED ITS MISSIONS THAT THE "CRISES" WERE MERELY AN EXCUSE TO CANCEL THE VISITS WITHOUT EMBARRASSING THE PRESIDENT OR DAMAGING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH MOSCOW AND ISLAMABAD. [Redacted]

3. (S/NF) SHOULD MANDELA SUCCEED TO HEALTH PROBLEMS PRIOR TO COMPLETION OF HIS TERM AS PRESIDENT, DFA OFFICIALS [Redacted] ARE CONCERNED FOR THE FUTURE OF SOUTH AFRICA. MOST BELIEVE THAT IT WAS

(b)(1); 1.4 (c)

ONLY PRESIDENT MANDELA'S PRESTIGE AND STATESMANSHIP THAT KEPT ORDER IN SOUTH AFRICA AFTER THE RECENT ELECTIONS AND THAT THERE IS NO SUITABLE REPLACEMENT. SHOULD ANYTHING HAPPEN THAT WOULD CAUSE MANDELA TO VACATE THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT, THE DIPLOMATS BELIEVE THAT THE INTERNAL STABILITY SITUATION WILL DETERIORATE QUICKLY.

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