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CONTROLS

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SERIAL: (U)

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) SOUTH AFRICA (SF).

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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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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SUMMARY: (S/NF) _____
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.

TEXT: 1. (S/NF) _____
AS OF LATE JULY 1995, OFFICIALS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN DEPARTMENT OF

FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DFA) _____ CONCERNS
THAT

PRESIDENT NELSON ((MANDELA'S)) HEALTH IS DETERIORATING. THESE

THAT ANY DETERIORATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S

HEALTH
IS THE RESULT OF THE FRENZIED PACE OF FOREIGN TRAVEL UNDERTAKEN
BY
MANDELA OVER THE PAST YEAR IN ORDER TO STIMULATE FOREIGN
INVESTMENT

IN SOUTH AFRICA. _____ DOUBTED THAT
HE

77-YEAR OLD MANDELA WILL SURVIVE HIS FIVE-YEAR TERM AS PRESIDENT
WITHOUT SUFFERING A COLLAPSE.

(S/NF) _____ 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

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. _____

3. (S/NF) SHOULD MANDELA SUCCEED TO HEALTH PROBLEMS PRIOR TO
COMPLETION OF HIS TERM AS PRESIDENT, DFA OFFICIALS _____ 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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