

~~CONFIDENTIAL/NF~~

**ENVELOPE**

(b)(3):10 USC 424,(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

**HEADER**

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060042Z FEB 86  
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC/ [redacted] (b)(3):10  
USC 424

TO DIACURINTEL

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(b)(3):10 USC 424,(b)  
(3):50 USC 3024(i)

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**CONTROLS**

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SERIAL DIADIN 36-13A

**BODY**

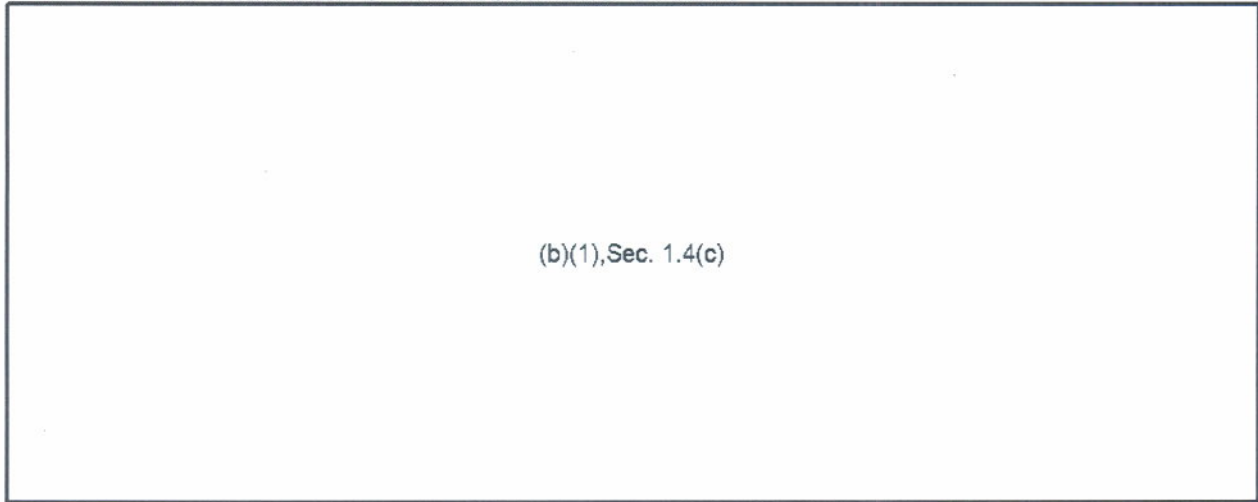
SUBJ SOUTH AFRICA FREEING NELSON? (U)  
DOI 5 FEB 86 (AS OF 1700 EST)  
TEXT 1. (U) REMARKS BY PRESIDENT BOTHA THAT

HE WOULD CONSIDER  
RELEASING JAILED AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS (ANC) LEADER NELSON  
MANDELA HAVE BEEN REINFORCED BY A PRESS REPORT THAT A MAJORITY OF  
THE CABINET SUPPORTS FREEING HIM.  
2. (U) BOTHA'S SPEECH OPENING PARLIAMENT ON 31 JANUARY LINKED THE  
RELEASE OF MANDELA ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS WITH FREEDOM FOR CAPT  
WYNAND DU TOIT, CAPTURED BY ANGOLAN FORCES IN CABINDA LAST MAY, AND  
TWO PROMINENT SOVIET DISSIDENTS, ANATOLY SCHARANSKY AND ANDREI  
SAKHAROV. MANDELA'S FAMILY, THE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT, AND EXILED ANC  
LEADERS HAVE REJECTED BOTHA'S OFFER. FROM LUSAKA, ZAMBIA, ANC  
SECRETARY GENERAL ALFRED NZO REFUSED TO COMPARE A "PERSON OF  
MANDELA'S STATURE" WITH A "RACIST SOLDIER AND SOVIET DISSIDENTS  
WHO, IF THEY WERE DISSIDENTS, WERE NOT WANTED BY THEIR OWN PEOPLE."

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3. (U) "BUSINESS DAY," A PROMINENT SOUTH AFRICAN NEWSPAPER, REPORTED ON 4 FEBRUARY THAT A MAJORITY OF THE CABINET FAVORS RELEASING MANDELA. ITS SOURCES CLAIMED THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT WANT ITS OPPONENTS TO INTERPRET MANDELA'S FREEDOM AS A SIGN OF WEAKNESS, BUT IF INTERNAL UNREST WERE TO SUBSIDE, THE STATE OF EMERGENCY AROUND JOHANNESBURG AND PARTS OF CAPE PROVINCE COULD BE LIFTED AND MANDELA'S IMPRISONMENT ENDED.



**ADMIN**

PREP



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