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USC 3024(i)

~~SECRET~~  ~~NF~~

**ENVELOPE**

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**HEADER**

P  
300254Z MAY 90  
FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC  
INFO RUEALGX/SAFE

P  
192001Z MAY 90  
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC (b)(3):10 USC 424

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**CONTROLS**

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~~NOINTEL~~

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SERIAL: DODID 149-2D

**BODY**

SUBJ: SOUTH AFRICA: MANDELA'S HEALTH. ~~(C/NF)~~  
DOI: 29 MAY 90 (AS OF 1430 EDT)  
TEXT: 1. ~~(C/NF)~~ NELSON MANDELA'S PLANNED TRIP TO  
EUROPE HAS BEEN  
POSTPONED BY 1 DAY TO EASE HIS CONVALESCENCE FROM POSSIBLE PROSTATE  
SURGERY.  
2. ~~(C/NF)~~ THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

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(ANC) WAS ADMITTED TO A HOSPITAL ON 28 MAY FOR WHAT WAS DESCRIBED ASA ROUTINE CHECKUP. US OFFICIALS IN JOHANNESBURG WERE AWARE OF PLANS

BY MANDELA TO INTERRUPT HIS VERY ACTIVE SCHEDULE FOR MEDICAL TESTS AND REST, BUT NO DATES HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED. ANC INTERNAL LEADER WALTER SISULU LATER CLAIMED THAT MANDELA UNDERWENT A PROSTATE OPERATION, AND HE WAS REPORTEDLY IN SATISFACTORY CONDITION ON THE 29TH. DESPITE INITIAL CLAIMS THAT THE HOSPITALIZATION WOULD NOT AFFECT THE ANC LEADER'S TRAVELS TO EUROPE, MANDELA'S DEPARTURE HAS BEEN DELAYED BY 1 DAY TO 4 JUNE.

3. ~~(S/TF)~~ COMMENT: MANDELA, WHO IS OF ADVANCED YEARS, HAS TRAVELED ALMOST CONSTANTLY SINCE HIS RELEASE FROM PRISON IN MID-FEBRUARY, HEIGHTENING CONCERNS ABOUT HIS HEALTH. WHILE IN PRISON, HE REPORTEDLY HAD PROSTATE SURGERY IN 1985 AND WAS TREATED FOR TUBERCULOSIS IN 1988. DESPITE ANY CURRENT HEALTH PROBLEMS, HE

INTENDS TO VISIT EUROPE FROM 4 TO 14 OR 16 JUNE (b)(1),Sec. 1.4(d)  
  
 (b)(1),Sec. 1.4(c),Sec. 1.4(d)

**ADMIN**

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DECL: OADR

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