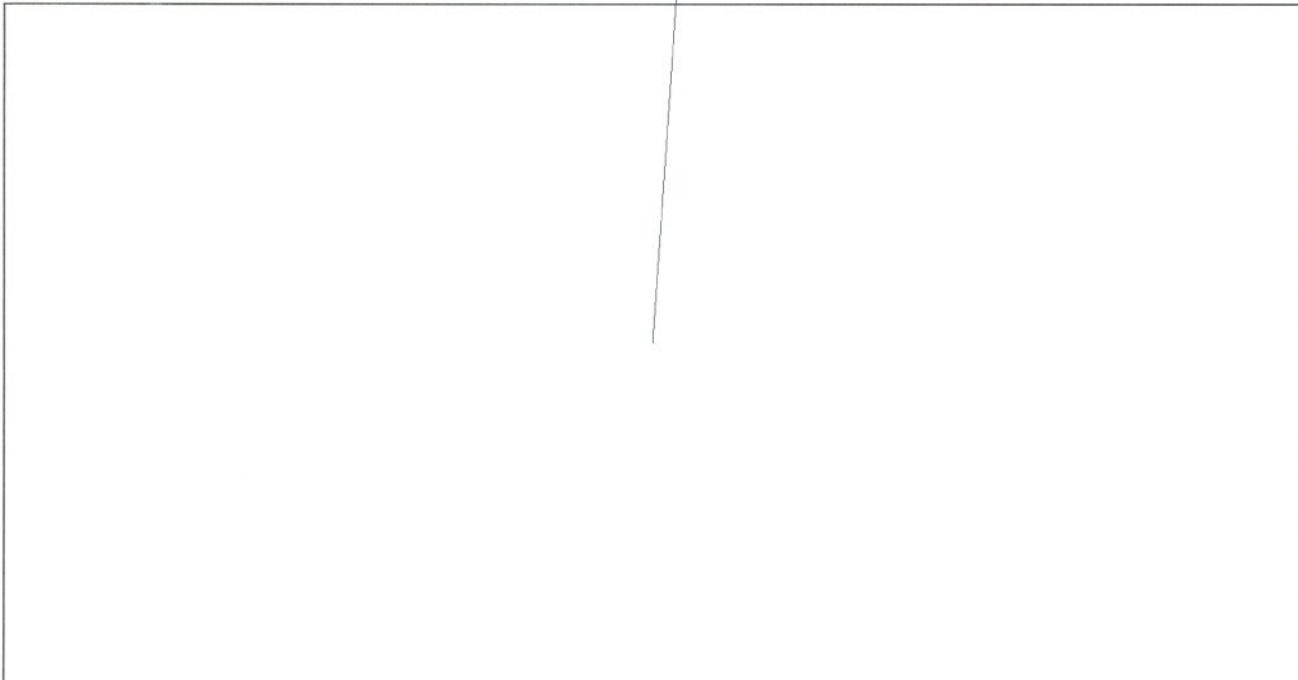


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SERIAL: (U) [Redacted]  
COUNTRY: (U) South Africa (ZAF).

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Former South African President Nelson

((Mandela)). (U).

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

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DOI: (U) 20090402.

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

[Redacted]

SUMMARY: (U) SEE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY, TEXT PARAGRAPH 1, BELOW.

TEXT: 1. (U) [Redacted] EXECUTIVE SUMMARY. Former South African president Nelson ((Mandela)), although physically frail and very hard of hearing is mentally agile; his responses to questions during recent conversation with foreign diplomats reflect sharp intellectual acuity.

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2. (U) [Redacted] Conversation with Mandela within a typical diplomatic seating arrangement is very difficult, as Mandela has great difficulty hearing conversations held in normal tone of

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[Redacted]

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voice. Mandela evidently does not wear a hearing aid, although when his wife, Graca, is present , she often assists and enables the conversation by repeating the question close enough that Mandela can hear the query clearly.

Upon hearing questions clearly, Mandela responds very cogently, without hesitation.

Mandela has difficulty standing from a sitting position in order to greet guests, but invariably does so with assistance, often offered by his wife when present.

[Redacted]

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