

NODIS

S/AS

NO DISTRIBUTION

FROM PARIS NO. 24382 DATE 8/23/77
TO DEPT

LOU CONF SECRET TOP SECRET CHEROKEE

DISTRIBUTION AUTH. BY (DATE/TIME) READ BY TOSEC _____

EXSEC _____ SECTO _____

FAST DESK _____

SLOW DESK _____

S/S DO _____ DIST. BY (S/S-I) _____

DDO J 8/23 0847 DATE/TIME _____

REPEAT TO WH FOR BRZEZINSKI

BY J DATE/TIME 8/23 0847

SENSITIVE

The attached document may be seen only by the addressee and, if not expressly precluded, by those officials under his authority whom he considers to have a clear-cut "need to know".

This document has been made available only to those offices marked. It is not to be reproduced, given any additional distribution, or discussed with non-recipients without the express prior approval of the Executive Secretary.

Addressees outside the Department of State should handle the document in accordance with the above instructions and with current State instructions on NODIS.

When this document is no longer needed, the recipient is responsible for seeing that it is destroyed and for mailing of record of destruction to the Director, S/S-I, Room 7241 NS. Originals of non-telegraphic NODIS material, however, should be hand carried to S/S-I for appropriate disposition.

Executive Secretary
Department of State

NO DISTRIBUTION

NODIS

(S) 2,3	A
(D) 4	EB
(P) 5	H
E	IGA
(T) 6	(INR) e.o. Saunders
M	IO
C	L
S/IG	OES
S/NM	(PM) e.o. Gelb 12
S/P	SCA
S/PRS	OTHER _____
M/CT	OTHER _____
M/DG	ACDA
(OTHER) S/AS	AID
(OTHER) UNA	OMB
(AF) e.o. Harrop	TREASURY
ARA 9	CIA LDX
EA	CIA COURIER
EUR	SECDEF LDX
NEA	SECDEF
	COURIER electrically
TASK FORCE	(WH) LDX
WORKING GRP	WH COURIER
(S/S) CHRON 10	OTHER _____
S/S-S	OTHER _____
S/S-EX	S/S-I A
TOSEC CHRON	13 B
SECTO CHRON	C

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN D 66817

NODS
S
N
D
D
S
N
D
D
S



23 AUG 77Z 11 6
Department of State

006172
INCOMING TELEGRAM

SECRET NOD308

PAGE 01 PARIS 24382 231138Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----015474 231140Z /12

O 231121Z AUG 77 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7484

S E C R E T PARIS 24382

NODIS

FOR ACTING SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR HARTMAN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1, 2, 3
TAGS: PARM SF FR
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM

REF: STATE 200248

1. I MET WITH SOUTOU THIS MORNING AND GAVE HIM DETAILED RUN-DOWN ON THREE ASSURANCES WE REQUESTED OF SOUTH AFRICANS AND THE RESPONSES WE HAVE THUS FAR RECEIVED. HE WAS APPRECIATIVE OF OUR KEEPING THE FRENCH INFORMED AND CONCLUDED FROM THIS INITIAL PRESENTATION, AT LEAST, THAT SOME PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE BUT THAT SERIOUS PROBLEMS STILL REMAIN TO BE FACED.

2. SOUTOU SAID THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN RESPONSE TO THE FRENCH DEMARCHE HAD BEEN, FIRST, THAT ALL OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM IS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES, AND, SECOND, FROM THE CONTEXT OF ALL REMAINING DISCUSSIONS, THE SOUTH AFRICANS WERE ASKING HOW THEY COULD ASSURE THE WORLD THAT THEY WERE NOT DEVELOPING A NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE OF ANY KIND. THEY DID NOT,

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NN D 66817

REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

NONDIS



Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

SECRET

PAGE 02

PARIS 24382 231138Z

HOWEVER, MAKE A FLAT STATEMENT AS THEY HAD APPARENTLY NOW DONE TO US THAT THEY WERE NOT CREATING EVEN A TEST FACILITY FOR NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES.

3. SOUTOU WENT ON TO APOLOGIZE FOR WHAT HE REFERRED TO AS A "MISTAKE" BY HIS MINISTER IN TALKING TO THE PRESS. HE SAID THAT HE WAS VERY TIRED AT THE END OF HIS AFRICAN TRIP AND DURING THE COURSE OF AN INTERVIEW DE GUIRINGAUD SLIPPED AND APPEARED TO CONFIRM THAT FRANCE HAD BEEN TOLD THAT SOUTH AFRICA WAS PROCEEDING WITH PREPARATIONS FOR A NUCLEAR TEST BUT THAT THIS WAS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. SOUTOU SAID THAT AS WE CAN SEE FROM HIS ACCOUNT OF THE RESPONSE THEY HAVE RECEIVED FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT THAT IS NOT AT ALL AN ACCURATE STATEMENT OF WHAT THE SOUTH AFRICANS SAID. HE EXPRESSED SOME CONSTERNATION AND INDEED SAID THE QUAI D'ORSAY HAD NOT YET DECIDED HOW OR WHETHER THEY WOULD TRY TO CLARIFY THE PUBLIC RECORD. HE ALSO SAID THAT PERHAPS IF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT MAKES AN EXPLICIT PUBLIC STATEMENT THIS WILL AVOID ANY NECESSITY OF FRANCE CORRECTING THE RECORD.

3. I MENTIONED THAT WE WERE UNHAPPY TO SEE A REFERENCE TO KALAHARI AND SOUTOU STATED THAT THIS WAS APPARENTLY GIVEN ON BACKGROUND BUT NOT FROM INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM US, BUT RATHER BASED ON A NOTE DISTRIBUTED WITHIN THE QUAI ON THE INITIAL APPROACH OF THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR WHICH HAD SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED THE KALAHARI DESERT SITE. I CAUTIONED HIM ABOUT ANY RELEASE OF INFORMATION WHICH WE HAD SUPPLIED IN CONFIDENCE.

4. SOUTOU HAD ONE SPECIFIC REQUEST IN WISHING TO
SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NN D 66817

NON-SECRET-NON-SECRET-NON-SECRET



Department of State

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

SECRET

PAGE 03

PARIS 24382 231138Z

KNOW WHETHER THE SOUTH AFRICANS HAD ACTUALLY REFUSED INSPECTION OR WHETHER, IN VIEW OF THE SHORT TIME PRESSURES, WE HAD NOT WAITED FOR AN ANSWER BUT PROCEEDED WITH THE REQUEST FOR ASSURANCES AS A PARALLEL MOVE.

5. WITH REFERENCE TO PRETORIA'S 4282, JUST RECEIVED, IF VORSTER MAKES THE STATEMENT FORESEEN, FRENCH WILL HAVE TO FIND SOME MEANS TO SAY PUBLICLY THAT THEY HAVE NO INDEPENDENT INFORMATION WHICH CONTRADICTS THE ASSURANCES GIVEN PUBLICLY BY SOUTH AFRICA.

6. DEPARTMENT REPEAT AS DESIRED.
HARTMAN

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NN D 66817

REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY