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3 May 2000

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

BILATERAL FORUM

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

3. Grobler gave me the enclosed list of issues which the South African side would like to see discussed. Zimbabwe clearly has to be added. But the list is quite close to that which we gave them back in December.

[Redacted]

①

not relevant

not relevant

R-



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

not relevant

9. Lastly, we talked about press handling. I said that it would be very important for us to talk to either Netshitenzhe



or Mankhlanu before the visit to make sure that we were presenting it in a way which suited South African aims as well as our own. Zimbabwe was likely to be the main focus of press interest.



not relevant

10. I am afraid that this is all something of a ramble - and much of the information may already be known to you. It seems to me to be the basis of a workable programme. But we will have to move quite fast to work up arrangements for Zuma, Erwin and any other accompanying ministers.

Gausser



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Foreign & Commonwealth Office

11 May 2000

London SW1A 9AH
Telephone: 020 7

Alastair Campbell
Press Office
No 10
Downing Street
London

Dear Alastair,

The Mbeki visit next week could give us Zimbabwe problems. I am told you are going to be speaking to his Head of Media, Joel Netshitenzhe. You might want to bear the following points in mind.

[REDACTED]

WITHELD UNDER SECTION 27 OF FOI ACT

N-?

[REDACTED] One South African newspaper carried a story saying Mbeki would be raising strong reservations about the aggressive British approach to Zimbabwe when he comes to London.

I → 2000

You will be aware that Kofi Annan has proposed that the United Nations Development Programme should conduct a study into Zimbabwe land reform.

[REDACTED] We will be presenting it as a useful contribution if it helps to show how constructive Britain is prepared to be if - and only if - the violence ends.



In the run up to the Forum, I think we will need to persuade the media that it would be naive to expect any African leader to speak critically of a neighbour while visiting Britain, so they should not judge Mbeki's attitude by the scale of his rhetoric on Mugabe next week. Also, we should be saying they must not expect new initiatives on Zimbabwe, though obviously the Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary will be discussing the situation in Zimbabwe with Mbeki.

[REDACTED]

I NOT
RELEVANT

John Williams

John Williams

Cc: PS
PS/Mr Hain
PS/PUS
Mr Westmacott
Ms Grant
Ms MacLeod, AD(S)
[REDACTED]
Julian Braithwaite, No 10
Kim Darroch
Karen Pierce
Robin Twyman
Richard Wood
Victoria Whitford

MBEKI VISIT: ZIMBABWE MEDIA STRATEGY

1. We agreed that Zimbabwe will probably dominate the media aspects of the Mbeki visit and I offered to give you a media strategy.

2. Setting Expectations

We need to make very clear to the media not to expect Mbeki to criticise Mugabe while in London. That is not the way one African leader is ever likely to treat another. Journalists should be told that Mbeki's attitude should not be judged by the scale of public condemnation.

[REDACTED]

This week the Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary will want a frank assessment of Mbeki's reading of the situation in Zimbabwe and will bring him up-to-date on our position.

[REDACTED]

WITHHELD
UNDER
SECTION
27 OF
THE FOI
ACT 200

Throughout we have been keen to make sure that Zimbabwe's neighbours are fully aware of our attitude – both the constructive approach we are prepared to take to land reform in the right conditions, and our determination not to appease violence.

We should be telling journalists that Mbeki has always been fully aware of this position. There have been frequent contacts. So it will be no surprise to him that Britain is not willing to fund land reform until the conditions agreed in 1998 are met – and that the first of those conditions is respect for the law.

The media needs to be told plainly not to expect new initiatives on Zimbabwe from the meeting.

3. Potential Problems



WITHHELD
UNDER
SECTION 27
OF THE
FOI ACT
2000

Our line on UNDP is: "If there is a proposal for a technical study of how land reform might work when the political climate changes, that is fine by us because we have always said we are ready to be constructive if the violence ends. But there is no question of mediation. We have always said we are ready to help, but not to appease."

We have a catalogue of lines to take on problems that might arise any day (an election announcement, an MDC boycott, etc).

4. On the day

Although every effort should be made to remain focused on the main business of the Forum, there will be no point in Ministers trying to duck the Zimbabwe issue. That would give an over-defensive impression.

[REDACTED]

WITHHELD
UNDER S. 27

opportunity of the visit to listen closely to the views of a major African leader who can be a strong influence on this issue. This was not about seeking new initiatives or finding new ways of dealing with the problem. Everyone knows the solution to this problem lies in Zimbabwe and the first step is ending the violence. Britain appreciates the approach taken by President Mbeki and will remain in close touch with him as we continue to try to impress on the Government of Zimbabwe that it is in its own interests to end the violence, so that Zimbabwe can begin to tackle its problems.

[REDACTED]

WITHHELD
UNDER S. 27
OF FOIA Act
2000

Williams

John Williams

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1. Ms Booker

Foreign & Commonwealth Office

15 May 2000

London SW1A 2AH
Telephone: 020 7

Press Office
No 10 Downing Street
LONDON •

3.

Ann Grant, Andrew Page and I had a meeting this morning with Cheryl Carolus and her team at the South African High Commission. I went in order to make sure they are in no doubt about the media dangers involved in the Mbeki visit.

WITHHELD
UNDER
SECTION
27

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY	
20 JUN 2000	
DESK OFFICER	REGISTRY
INDEX	PA



You will be receiving detailed media strategy from Andrew Page. My concern is the broad approach – to agree in advance with the South Africans how to prevent the media splitting us on Zimbabwe. Both sides should be stressing that we are working in our own ways towards the same end – a peaceful and lawful resolution of a crisis which is damaging the whole southern African economy.

John Major

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

8



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Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

16 May 2000

London SW1A 2AH

Dear [redacted]

UK/South Africa Bilateral Forum, 18-19 May

[redacted]

NOT
RELEVANT

Zimbabwe will dominate, at least in the media. The Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary will want a frank assessment of Mbeki's reading of the situation in Zimbabwe and will bring him up-to-date on our position. Our objectives are: to stress the points we have in common (our interest in a stable, prosperous Zimbabwe; the need to send election observers); to clear up South African misunderstandings about our position on funding land reform; and to encourage Mbeki to use his influence to the full, both with Mugabe and with other African leaders, to end the violence and ensure free elections. The Prime Minister might like to raise Zimbabwe privately with Mbeki before the Forum proper begins. It will dominate the press conference and cannot easily be left until dinner.

17

[redacted]

NOT
RELEVANT

(ready to help, but not to appease) will be no surprise to him; but no-one should expect Mbeki to criticise Mugabe while in London - that is not the way one African leader treats another. Our line should be that Britain appreciates Mbeki's influence and engagement and will remain in close touch with him as we continue to impress on the Zimbabwean Government that is in its people's own interests - and the region's - to end the violence and hold decent elections soon.

[redacted]

NOT
RELEVANT



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

I NOT RELEVANT

The Prime Minister and Mbeki touched on some of these at CHOGM in Durban when they launched the High Level Group (HLG). If the Prime Minister and Mbeki were to discuss Zimbabwe one-to-one, this might lead on naturally to discussion of the Commonwealth (which has a key role to play in Zimbabwe) and Mbeki's intentions for the HLG.

[REDACTED]

I NOT RELEVANT

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Private Secretary

[REDACTED]
10 Downing Street

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[REDACTED]
Date: 16 May 2000

L. Programme - E

To: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: BRIEFING FOR AUDIENCE OF THE QUEEN: PRESIDENT MBEKI OF SOUTH AFRICA: THURSDAY 18 MAY: 11.40 - 12.00

1. As requested, I attach briefing for the audience of the Queen with President Mbeki on Thursday 18 May. Mrs Mbeki will not accompany the President. She arrives on Friday 19 May.
2. The briefing consists of:
 - a note on the purpose of the visit;
 - a copy of the most recent programme;
 - a page of topics for discussion;
 - a background political/economic telegram and a background note on bilateral relations
 - a personality note on President Mbeki.

[REDACTED]

VISIT BY PRESIDENT MBEKI: 17-20 MAY 2000
OUTLINE PROGRAMME (EIGHTH DRAFT)

Wednesday 17 May

11.30 Mbeki arrives at Heathrow. Red carpet welcoming ceremony.
Arrive at hotel (Dorchester).
Private programme organised by ANC.

Thursday 18 May

08.30 Business breakfast at hotel.

Morning Mbeki: Desk time.

11.40 – 12.00 Mbeki: Audience with HM The Queen.

11.00 – 12.00 Zuma meets FAC; Erwin gives evidence to Development Committee.

11.30 – 13.00 No 10 Policy Unit/Essop Pahad and Mbeki's Policy Staff: talks in No 10.
Ministers: meetings with with counterparts in Departments:

12.15 – 13.00 - Cook/Zuma;
11.45 – 12.30 - Hoon/Lekota;
12.00 – 12.45 - Byers/Erwin.

13.05 Mbeki and Ministers: Wreath laying at the Cenotaph.

13.15 Mbeki: arrive at No 10. Photocall with PM.
PM hosts lunch for Mbeki and Ministers plus UK counterparts in No 10.

14.30 – 16.00 **Bilateral Forum**
PM/Mbeki discussion with Ministers and Policy Staff in No 10.

16.00 PM/Mbeki: Joint Press Conference in No 10.

17.00 – 17.30 Mbeki: BBC WS on-line/radio phone-in, live from Bush House.

18.15 – 18.45 Mbeki: call by Commonwealth Secretary-General at hotel.

19.00 – 20.30 Ministers: Reception at SA High Commissioner's Residence.

19.30 – 21.30 PM/Mbeki: Private Dinner at No 10.

Friday 19 May

06.30 Mrs Mbeki arrives at Heathrow.

08.00 Mbeki: breakfast with senior editors at hotel.

10.30 Mr and Mrs Mbeki and Pahad: visit Met Police Training School at Hendon.

Ministers: separate programmes:

11.00 – 12.30 - Zuma: seminar on SA foreign policy on Africa at Chatham House.

10.30 – 12.30 - Erwin: Trade and Investment event with UK businessmen at SAHC.

- Lekota: to be confirmed.

12.10 Mr and Mrs Mbeki: Reception with UK businessmen at SAHC.

13.00 Mr and Mrs Mbeki and Ministers: Formal Lunch at Dorchester Hotel, with business leaders, politicians, journalists and opinion-formers.

Mbeki: Speech at Lunch.

15.00 Mbeki: call by Chairman of Standard and Poors at hotel.

16.45 Mbeki: meet South African High Commission staff at SAHC.

17.00 Mbeki: receive doctorate from Glasgow Caledonian University at SAHC

18.00 Mbeki: briefing for South African media at hotel.

20.00 Mbeki and President's delegation leave London for Prince Bandar's Residence, Oxfordshire.

Overnight At Prince Bandar's Residence.

Saturday 20 May

Private arrangements

Sunday 21 May

12.00 Mbeki and President's delegation leave Brize Norton for State Visit to US.

Africa Department (Southern), FCO

16 May 2000

PURPOSE OF THE VISIT

NOT
RELEVANT

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

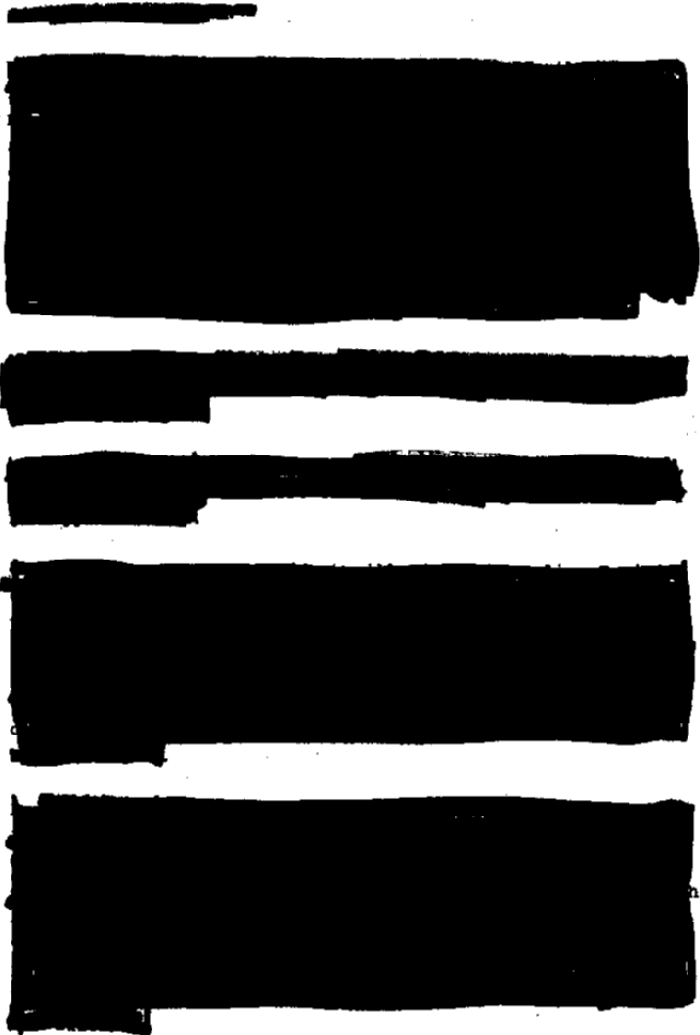
President Mbeki is pivotal to our wider Africa policy. Zimbabwe is the current crisis on which we are keeping closely in touch, and where South Africa's stand is crucial.

[REDACTED]

] NOT
RELEVANT

[REDACTED]

] NOT
RELEVANT



NOT
RELEVANT

[REDACTED] FCO
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: MBEKI IN LONDON: SCENESETTER

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NOT
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VANT

DETAIL

3. Mbeki arrives in London on 17 May for the Third UK/South Africa Forum. From London, he will travel to Washington for a State Visit.

[REDACTED]

4. [REDACTED]

5. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NOT
RELE
VANT

[REDACTED]

↑ WITHHELD
UNDER
↓ SEC. 27.

7. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

9. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NOT
RELEVANT

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From: [REDACTED]
Date: 16 May 2000
Cc: [REDACTED]

NOT
RELEVANT

R - 3m

Private Secretary

SIERRA LEONE AND ZIMBABWE

- 1. The Secretary of State asked last night for a couple of phrases to use on Sierra Leone today. He will also need a line on the Zimbabwe elections.

NOT
RELEVANT

[REDACTED]

Zimbabwe

- I have called all along for a fair election, free from intimidation, and I repeat that call today.
- The people of Zimbabwe deserve the chance to choose their own future. So this announcement is welcome.

- But no election can be fair unless all parties can campaign without fear and unless all voters can go to the polling booth without fear. That is how the election observers and the international community will judge this election.
- The government of Zimbabwe knows this election will be conducted with the world watching
- It is not too late for President Mugabe to give a lead and make clear that the violence must stop and that his opponents must be given the freedom to campaign without fear.