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FROM Pretoria NO. 4245 DATE 8/22/77

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BY pm DATE/TIME 8/22 0655

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S E C R E T PRETORIA 4245

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

REF: (A) MOSCOW 12007; (B) STATE 199098; (C) PRETORIA 4239

1. I HAVE REVIEWED ALL TRAFFIC IN MY POSSESSION TO SEE IF THERE WERE ANY PUBLIC REFERENCE TO KALAHARI TEST SITE (PARA 4 OF REFTEL B). I WOULD CALL DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION TO MOSCOW 12007 WHICH REFERS TO TASS WASHINGTON DISPATCH CLAIMING THAT CIRCLES CLOSE TO WHITE HOUSE ARE PAYING CLOSE ATTENTION TO WARNING IN TASS STATEMENT ON SA DEVELOPMENTS AND THAT INFORMATION ON PREPARATIONS FOR SA NUCLEAR TEST IN KALAHARI IS BEING CAREFULLY STUDIED.

2. I AM INCLINED TO BRING THIS TO BRAND FOURIE'S ATTENTION AND REQUEST THAT EMBARGO ON SECOND ASSURANCE BE LIFTED. BEFORE DOING SO, REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE.

3. DEPT PLEASE DISTRIBUTE COPIES OF THIS MESSAGE AS APPROPRIATE.

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