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S E C R E T STATE 202090 TOSEC 090125

NODIS
FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND MOOSE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PARM, SF

SUBJECT: REVISED STATEMENT ON SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR
PROGRAM FOR LAGOS CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 199108, TOSEC 090037

1. IN LIGHT OF MOST RECENT EXCHANGES WITH SOUTH
AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AND PRESIDENT'S AUGUST 23 PRESS
CONFERENCE STATEMENT ON SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM,
WE HAVE REVISED TEXT OF YOUR STATEMENT TO USE AT
LAGOS CONFERENCE.

2. NEW TEXT READS AS FOLLOWS:

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(This in objection part reflects raised to Brennan version)

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BEGIN TEXT

PRESIDENT CARTER HAS MADE THE CURTAILING OF THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS ONE OF HIS TOP FOREIGN POLICY PRIORITIES BECAUSE OF HIS DEEP CONVICTION OF ITS IMPORTANCE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE CAPABILITIES TO INCREASING NUMBERS OF COUNTRIES WOULD THREATEN REGIONAL STABILITY, ENDANGER WORLD SECURITY AND DRAMATICALLY INCREASE THE RISK OF A GLOBAL NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST.

WE HAVE ADOPTED NEW POLICIES IN THE FIELDS OF NON-PROLIFERATION AND NUCLEAR EXPORTS DESIGNED TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE CAPABILITIES WHILE MEETING THE WORLD'S LEGITIMATE ENERGY NEEDS. BUT WE CANNOT ACHIEVE THIS GOAL ALONE. ALL NATIONS, REGARDLESS OF POLITICAL PERSUASION OR IDEOLOGY, MUST REFRAIN FROM CONTRIBUTING TO OTHER NATIONS' EFFORTS TO ACQUIRE A NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY. THIS IS A KEY PROVISION OF THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY TO WHICH 102 NATIONS HAVE ADHERED. THE UNITED STATES HAS TAKEN AND WILL CONTINUE TO TAKE, ALL STEPS IT CAN TOGETHER WITH OTHERS OR INDEPENDENTLY TO URGE THE WIDEST POSSIBLE ADHERENCE TO THIS TREATY.

IT IS OUR FIRM DETERMINATION TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, AND WE WOULD VIEW WITH THE GRAVEST CONCERN THE INTRODUCTION OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES INTO THE ALREADY TENSE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

IN THE LIGHT OF THE POSSIBILITIES THAT SOUTH AFRICA
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MIGHT BE PREPARING A SITE IN THE KALAHARI DESERT TO TEST A NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE, WE AND OTHER NATIONS SOUGHT ASSURANCES FROM SOUTH AFRICA ABOUT ITS NUCLEAR PROGRAM. SOUTH AFRICA HAS INFORMED US THAT:

-- THEY DO NOT HAVE AND DO NOT INTEND TO DEVELOP NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE DEVICES FOR ANY PURPOSE, EITHER PEACEFUL OR AS A WEAPON.

-- THAT THE KALAHARI TEST SITE IN QUESTION IS NOT DESIGNED TO TEST NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES.

-- THAT THERE WILL BE NO NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE TESTING OF ANY KIND IN SOUTH AFRICA.

WHILE THIS COMMITMENT FROM SOUTH AFRICA IS WELCOME, WE WILL, OF COURSE, CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE SITUATION THERE VERY CLOSELY. WE ARE ALSO RENEWING OUR EFFORTS TO HAVE SOUTH AFRICA PLACE ALL NUCLEAR

FACILITIES UNDER INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS AND INSPECTION AND, ALONG WITH OTHER NATIONS, TO SIGN THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY BE REASSURED THAT NUCLEAR WEAPONS OR EXPLOSIVES WILL NOT BE INTRODUCED INTO THIS PART OF THE WORLD. END TEXT

CHRISTOPHER

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