SECRET

1. ON THE BASIS OF PRELIMINARY INTELLIGENCE, WE HAVE TENTA-
TIVELY CONCLUDED THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS PROBABLY PREPARING
A NUCLEAR TEST SITE IN THE DESERT AND THUS THAT THEIR
NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM MAY BE SOMEWHAT FURTHER ALONG
THAN PREVIOUSLY REALIZED. ON AN URGENT BASIS WE ARE
PROCEEDING TO UPDATE THESE ASSESSMENTS AND EXPECT A BETTER
PICTURE OF THE STATE OF AFFAIRS BY TOMORROW OR SATURDAY.

2. YOU WILL KNOW BEST WHETHER TO MENTION THIS DEVELOPMENT
TO bothA UNDER ALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

3. CABLES ON OUR EARLIER APPROACH TO SAG IN PRETORIA ON
SECRET

SECRET

THE SAME SUBJECT AND THE SAG REPLY HAVE BEEN REPEATED TO
YOU. CHRISTOPHER
SECRET

Page 01        STATE 109653
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011
DRAFTED BY S/S:PTARNOFF
APPROVED BY S/S:PTARNOFF
------------------120960 121319Z /41
O 121310Z AUG 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

SECRET STATE 109653

NODIS
CHEROKEE ONLY FOR DR BRZEZINSKI

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 109653 ACTION SECRETARY AUG 12.

QUOTE SECRET STATE 190653 TOSEC 080314

NODIS
CHEROKEE, FOR THE SECRETARY FROM WARREN CHRISTOPHER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SF, US

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR POTENTIAL

REF: STATE 189626

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Page 02        STATE 109653

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3. CABLES ON OUR EARLIER APPROACH TO SAG IN PRETORIA ON THE SAME SUBJECT AND THE SAG REPLY HAVE BEEN REPEATED TO YOU.  CHRISTOPHER UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN
Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES, NUCLEAR TESTS, NUCLEAR WEAPONS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, CAT-C, CHEROKEE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE190653
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PTARNOFF:BABS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840072-1167
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path: ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770867/aaaacecs.tel
Line Count: 121
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f644755b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bccc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 77 STATE 189626
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1615933
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR POTENTIAL
TAGS: MNUC, PINR, SF, US
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE


Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009

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