

UNCLASSIFIED

10/6

Classification

R 060826Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO RUEHPCT/AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
RUVDAA/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
RUEHPCD/AMCONSUL DURBAN
RUEHPCG/AMEMBASSY GABORONE
RUEHPCJ/AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
RUEHGO/AMEMBASSY LAGOS
RUDTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON
RUVOBRL/AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
RUEHPCQ/AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
RUEHDT:US MISSION USUN NEW YORK
BT
UNCLAS PRETORIA 4581

CONTROL: 20281
RECD NY: 10-6-76 5:07AM

INFO: KATZEN
DISTR: A-B-C-E
S/S

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: WA, PINT, SA
SUBJECT: TURNHALLE DELEGATES FAVOR SWAPO ROLE

REF: PRETORIA 4568 - (USUN 20203)

1. OCTOBER 5 AND 6 PRESS REPORTS INTERVIEWS WITH CROSS SECTION OF DELEGATES TO TURNHALLE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE. MOST STRONGLY FAVOR FINDING WAY TO INCLUDE SWAPO IN DISCUSSION OF MOVES TOWARD INDEPENDENCE, WHILE MAKING CLEAR THAT SWAPO IS SEEN AS ONE OF A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT SEGMENTS OF THE PROBLEM, AND NOT AS AN AUTHORITY WHICH OUGHT TO REPLACE SOUTH AFRICA. CAPRIVI AND BASTER REPRESENTATIVES SEEM LESS CERTAIN THAT SWAPO PARTICIPATION WOULD RESULT IN POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION, BUT EXPRESS NO STRONG OPPOSITION.

2. POLITICAL CORRESPONDENTS SPECULATE THAT CALL FROM TURNHALLE FOR CONFERENCE IN SOME LOCATION WHICH WOULD INCLUDE SWAPO, ALSO INVITING SOUTH AFRICA TO BE REPRESENTED, COULD BE TECHNIQUE FOR OVERCOMING EARLIER PRONOUNCEMENTS BY PRIME MINISTER VORSTER THAT HE WOULD NEVER NEGOTIATE WITH SWAPO. VORSTER, THEY POINT OUT, LEFT OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF SOUTH AFRICAN RESPONSE TO AN INITIATIVE ORIGINATING IN SOUTH WEST AFRICA. SPECULATION CONTINUES THAT HIGH SAG OFFICIAL, POSSIBLY PM, MAY ADDRESS SITUATION WITHIN NEXT WEEK TO TEN DAYS.

SCOWLER

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