

The original documents are located in Box 38, “9/8/76 - Opening Statement at President's News Conference Expressing Concern for problems in South Africa” of the President's Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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KISSINGER AFRICAN REPORT

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

I MET THIS MORNING WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER TO DISCUSS
HIS REPORT ON HIS MEETINGS WITH PRIME MINISTER VORSTER AND
WITH EUROPEAN LEADERS. ON THE BASIS OF THIS REPORT I BELIEVE
THAT GOOD PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE ON THE PROBLEMS
CONCERNING SOUTHERN AFRICA.

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IT IS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THAT IN THIS DIPLOMATIC
PROCESS NOW UNFOLDING THE UNITED STATES IS OFFERING ITS GOOD
OFFICES AS AN INTERMEDIARY. WE ARE WILLING TO PRESENT
CERTAIN IDEAS ON HOW PROGRESS CAN BE ACHIEVED, BUT WE ARE *not*

NOT TRYING TO DEVELOP A SPECIFIC AMERICAN PLAN.

WE HAVE THREE OBJECTIVES:

-- FIRST, TO PREVENT AN ESCALATION OF THE VIOLENCE WHICH

IN TIME COULD THREATEN OUR NATIONAL SECURITY.

-- SECOND, TO REALIZE POPULAR ASPIRATIONS WHILE

GUARANTEEING MINORITY RIGHTS AND INSURING ECONOMIC PROGRESS.

-- THIRD, TO RESIST THE INTERVENTION IN THE AFRICAN

SITUATION BY OUTSIDE POWERS.

IN HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH PRIME MINISTER VORSTER, THE
SECRETARY PUT FORWARD SOME IDEAS CONVEYED TO THE UNITED STATES
BY BLACK AFRICAN LEADERS, AND PRIME MINISTER VORSTER GAVE
US HIS REACTIONS. AS A RESULT OF THESE DISCUSSIONS

ASSISTANT SECRETARY WILLIAM SCHAUFELE IS CURRENTLY IN AFRICA
DISCUSSING THE SITUATION. ON THE BASIS OF HIS REPORT I WILL
DECIDE WHETHER FURTHER PROGRESS CAN BE MADE THROUGH A VISIT
BY SECRETARY KISSINGER TO AFRICA, STARTING WITH THE BLACK
AFRICAN COUNTRIES MOST CONCERNED.

WE WANT TO CREATE THE OPPORTUNITY AND CONDITIONS FOR ALL
RACES TO LIVE SIDE BY SIDE.

THE UNITED STATES CANNOT BY ITSELF SOLVE THESE
COMPLICATED PROBLEMS. WE NEED THE CONTINUED GOOD-WILL AND
DEDICATION OF THE PARTIES INVOLVED.

THE PROCESS THAT IS NOW BEGINNING IS AN EXTREMELY
IMPORTANT ONE. IT IS ALSO EXTREMELY COMPLICATED. THERE IS
NO GUARANTEE OF SUCCESS. BUT I BELIEVE THE UNITED STATES
MUST NOW MAKE A MAJOR EFFORT BECAUSE IT IS THE RIGHT THING

TO DO, IT IS IN OUR NATIONAL INTEREST, AND IT IS IN THE

INTEREST OF WORLD PEACE.