

OCT 23 1990



EMBASSY OF SOUTH AFRICA  
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October 22, 1990

The Honorable George W. Crockett, Jr.  
U. S. House of Representatives  
2235 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Crockett:

President F W de Klerk announced on October 18, 1990, the lifting of the State of Emergency in the Province of Natal. Accordingly, there no longer exists a state of emergency in any part of South Africa.

In taking this action President de Klerk has noted "that there is broad consensus that conditions in Natal have become stabilised to such an extent that the ordinary laws of the land are again sufficient to ensure the safety of the public and maintain public order, despite sporadic violence."

This important development is further evidence of the commitment of President de Klerk and of the South African Government to negotiations which are intended to bring about a new and democratic South Africa. It also reemphasises that the change in South Africa is profound and the process irreversible.

I have taken the liberty of including for you a copy of the announcement by State President F W de Klerk.

With kind regards

P Koornhof  
AMBASSADOR

STATEMENT BY MR F W DE KLERK,  
STATE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

18 October 1990

When the country-wide state of emergency was lifted in June this year and was re-imposed in Natal only, I stated that the Government and I would constantly review the situation in Natal and that as soon as circumstances permitted, we would attend to lifting the state of emergency in Natal.

Intensive consideration has been given to conditions prevailing in Natal. In this process there has been comprehensive consultation with all the Government's security advisers, following which there were discussions with Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Chief Minister of KwaZulu, and his advisers. From these discussions and the opinions expressed, it has become clear that there is broad consensus that conditions in Natal have become stabilised to such an extent that the ordinary laws of the land are again sufficient to enable the Government to ensure the safety of the public and maintain public order, despite continuing sporadic violence.

The state of emergency in Natal, which was declared on 8 June 1990, and the emergency measures which consequently came into operation, are therefore now being lifted. A proclamation to this effect will appear in today's Government Gazette.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks and those of the Government to all who have contributed to the stabilization of the situation in Natal, particularly the security forces. I trust that conditions will remain such that it will not become necessary to introduce measures additional to the ordinary laws of the land again.

Should circumstances necessitate this, the Government will, as was recently the case on the Witwatersrand, not hesitate to take appropriate steps to protect the lives and property of all and to maintain good order.

With this announcement the declared state of emergency has now been completely lifted. Looking back on all the violence, the killings, intimidation and destruction which necessitated the imposition of the state of emergency, one thing is abundantly clear:

Violence and intimidation bring no solutions.

There is only one route to peace and reconciliation in our country and that is through peaceful negotiation. The door to this is now fully open and I am appealing to all leaders and all South Africans to accept the challenge of this open door.

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