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August 5, 1986
Dr. Oliver Tambo

President, African National Congress

Lukasa, Zambia

Africa

Dear Dr. Tambo:

In an attempt to unravel the Gordian Knot in regards to South Africa, I will explain in more detail than I did in my last letter. And, as a man of great geo-political learnings, as you are, I hope you will understand.

The vast wealth that South Africa possesses is not necessarily in monetary values. The values are strategic in importance to the U. S., U. K. and Germany; for without them, these nations are up against the wall, so to speak.

I am talking about the platinum group of metals; cobalt, chromium, etc. The strategic materials, including uranium.

These capitalist societies are deeply committed to them and the defense of them. They also feel that the C.C.C.P. and her allies have their equal share of them; and, they, the capitalistic societies, want their fair share.

Wasn't it true that the Viet Nam War was fought because the Vietnamese had a strategic material? Namely, tin.

Isn't it a shame to realize that people live and die under adverse conditions because they have something that somebody else has?

These capitalist people believe it is best for their survival and, in a sense, in time, yours, too!

A long time ago someone figured out in South Africa that the only way to redistribute the strategic wealth of South Africa was through a version of Communism. Under this form, this would be the only way the Black peoples would ever be able to assimilate their ancestral lands with the here and now of economic reality.

Was this Mr. Nelson Mandela of twenty-four years ago?

Nonetheless, here we are today.