

To Mark  
from Denis  
DGA009/054A/13  
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De Klerk, F... W.... (Deputy President)

It is an irony of history that such a staunch Afrikaner Nationalist as De Klerk should have had the task of negotiating the transformation to democracy. De Klerk's father was a member of the late Dr Verwoerd's cabinet, and the former prime minister JG Strijdom was his uncle. Always thought to be closer to the verkrampste (narrow-minded racist) section of the National Party, his announcement of the release of Nelson Mandela and the legalisation of the African National Congress and the South African Communist Party, among others, came as rude awakening to the country.

Although he is credited with the abolition of apartheid, his refusal to condemn it as immoral rankles. The implication is clear, he worked to end formal apartheid racism because it no longer worked. The whole of South African society and the economy were being destroyed by the opposition to apartheid.

In his determination to look after the privileges of white South Africans, De Klerk was slow to deal with the reactionary dissidents in the security forces. There was no doubt that the frequent attacks on ANC members and officials seriously hampered the re-establishment of the ANC after 30 years of illegality. De Klerk acted against his own right wing only when he had to, for example, after the killings at Boipatong, after the massacre at Bisho, and after the assassination of Chris Hani.

Before becoming the last apartheid state president De Klerk held mainly low profile portfolios, Posts and Telecommunications, Sports and Recreation, Mineral and Energy Affairs, and Internal Affairs. His one major portfolio was National Education dealing with black education. He was elected leader of the NP in the Transvaal in 1982 following .....was being embraced by the international community.

Keys, Derek He is now Minister of Finance. I would omit "-he has been a member of a number of boards, including..... Malbak and Sandvik-" because of excessive detail; and I would omit the last sentence in this section, "And he has turned out to be.....transition period", because one person's praise of consummate deals are another's 'sell-outs'.

Slovo is Minister for Housing  
Modise is Minister of Defence

Mbeki, Thabo. I would omit " are likely to offset..... with the grassroots" After all, support from grassroots youth means he is not out of touch with them.

Zuma, Jacob. We need to say that he is the leader of the ANC group, the largest after Inkatha in the Natal/KwaZulu Provincial Assembly. Zuma is married to Dr Nkosazana Zuma, now Minister of Health.

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Dear Aubrey

A bit difficult to write my opening remarks in a few minutes.

Essentially the point is that there is a Government of National Unity led by the ANC and including its allies, members of the SACP and COSATU as members of the ANC and subject to the ANC caucus. The Government also includes minority parties such as the old governing National Party of ex-President FW de Klerk, Inkatha, ie Mr Buthelezi and another Cabinet member.

In other words, an historic compromise has been reached in which the formerly rightless are the leading party, but the old rulers have had to be included in government.

Economic reconstruction and development takes place against that political background, exacerbated by the nature of the civil service which includes the old officers and structures.

The obvious conclusion is that political power has been won; there is the need to ensure that the levers of state power are not disconnected; and monopoly capital remains the dominant element in the economy.

The task is to overcome fifty percent unemployment, to make education universal, to provide adult education and training for millions who were denied them, national health service, fresh water, electrification, housing and jobs, jobs, jobs, land redistribution, and steps to change the balance of economic power. What has been achieved is a national democratic revolution.

I will develop the topic from their.

A lengthy cv is attached. You will chop it to length to suit your purposes.

I am now the Executive Director of HEART, Health Education And Reconstruction Training programme for Southern Africa, of the HEalth And Refugee Trust (South Africa) a charity registered in Britain. We are funding projects worth about £120 000 in South Africa at present. We need contributors.

Having been invited to attend a luncheon at the Preasidency in Pretoria, I am leaving tomorrow evening and shall return on the morning of 27 July, in good time for the talk on 3 August.

With warm good wishes  
Yours sincerely

Denis Goldberg