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**Record Group/Collection:** George H.W. Bush Presidential Records  
**Collection/Office of Origin:** Speechwriting, White House Office of  
**Series:** Speech File Backup Files  
**Subseries:** Chron File, 1989-1993

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**OA/ID Number:** 13729  
**Folder ID Number:** 13729-009

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**Folder Title:**  
[F.W.] deKlerk Departure 9/24/90 [OA 8316]

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 21, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH:           CHRISS WINSTON *aw*  
FROM:                MARK DAVIS *MD*  
SUBJECT:             DEPARTURE STATEMENT FOR PRESIDENT DEKLERK

On Monday, September 24, at approximately 11:35 a.m., you will deliver a departure statement for F.W. deKlerk, President of South Africa. This is the first time a South American leader has visited the White House since 1948. Your remarks, 6-8 minutes in length, will be on cards.

Davis/Blymire  
Title: DeKlerk  
Sept. 21, 1990  
Draft: Four

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE STATEMENT/F.W. DEKLERK  
1:35 p.m., Monday, September 24, 1990

((Acknowledgements)) -- Welcome to the White House.

We've just come from an extraordinarily useful meeting. President deKlerk and I have conversed on the phone several times in the past. But it was a great pleasure to hold this face-to-face meeting with the first South African leader to visit the White House in more than forty years.

President deKlerk described for me in detail what he is trying to accomplish in South Africa; the process of ending apartheid and negotiating a new political reality for all. We talked of this promising but difficult situation, especially the recent violence.

After all, we have seen in other parts of the world, the culture of political violence overwhelm the culture of dialogue. This must not happen to South Africa. The government has a special responsibility to maintain order. But all political parties and groups have a special responsibility to support the process of peaceful transition.

One thing is apparent in this process of change -- the move away from apartheid, toward a new political reality, is irreversible. Just look at what has happened.

\*\*\* Leading political figures, including Nelson Mandela, have been released from prison. The government and the African National Congress have reached an agreement on a plan for the release of the remaining political prisoners.

\*\*\* Political organizations banned for years are now free to conduct peaceful political activities.

\*\*\* Restraints on the media have largely been removed.

\*\*\* A framework has been agreed to between the ANC and the government to lead to negotiations over the political future of the country. Other groups are invited to join in.

\*\*\* Except for beleaguered Natal, the nationwide State of Emergency has been lifted throughout the country.

Who among us would have anticipated these remarkable developments only a year ago. Clearly, the time has come to encourage and assist the emerging new South Africa.\\\

We are often asked what we want to see happen in South Africa. The United States clearly endorses the principle of constitutional, democratic government in South Africa. And I am here to tell you that I have enormous respect for what President deKlerk and Nelson Mandela are trying to achieve together in pursuit of this principle.

South Africa needs a constitutional system based on regular and free elections with universal suffrage; a civil society, where authority is responsible in every sense of the word. South Africa needs an unvarying respect for human rights, including a free press and an independent judiciary.

We would also like to see an economic system that is based on freedom, individual initiative and market forces. We believe that only a society that opens opportunity to all, can remedy the social and economic injuries inflicted on so many people for so many years by apartheid.

Some might say that I've been too prescriptive. But the prescriptions come not from me, but from a dozen lands. From Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland. From what is now, but will soon no longer be, East Germany. From Nicaragua, Chile, parts of Africa, even the Soviet Union. We are learning to see South Africa in that context -- the context of a changing world.

And it is in such a context that the issue of sanctions often arises. Although our meetings today were not about sanctions, obviously the topic did come up. Let me just say a word about them.

Once again, we believe the process of change in South Africa is irreversible -- a fact we will bear squarely in mind as we consult and make decisions in the weeks and months ahead. Our goal must be to support the process of change.

Of course, I will need to consult fully with Congress on these issues. As you know, all the conditions set in some of our legislation have not yet been met.

But this is not a time to move goalposts. And it is certainly not the time for any new sanctions; whether Federal, state or local.

Finally, we will need to be in touch with our traditional Allies in Western Europe and elsewhere on what we can do to help build democracy in South Africa. It is only in this way that South Africa can again be fully accepted into the wider international community. We hope that South Africa will soon accede to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, and we look for an early return to full participation in the international financial community. ((And let me also suggest allowing South African athletes, drawn from all parts of society, to compete in the 1992 Olympics.))

Apartheid has long hindered South Africa from within, depriving it of the talent and very dreams of millions of men and women. Little wonder, then, that the end of apartheid holds the promise of unleashing the creative energies of these restless millions. That is why the end of apartheid can mean the beginning of a greater South Africa.

Mr. President, if you are successful in this effort, South Africa will become a beloved country, not for one people, but for all her people. For that, you leave with our gratitude, appreciation and a hearty Godspeed.\\\

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Staffed for 9/21

*Send final draft  
to Baker for further  
approval*

Davis/Blymire  
Title: DeKlerk  
Sept. 17, 1990  
Draft: Three

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE STATEMENT/F.W. DEKLERK  
Monday, ((Time)), September 24, 1990

1:35

((Acknowledgements)) -- Welcome to the White House.

We've just come from an extraordinarily useful meeting. President deKlerk and I have conversed on the phone several times in the past. But it was a great pleasure to hold this face-to-face meeting with the first South African President to visit the White House in more than forty years.

President deKlerk described for me in detail what he is trying to accomplish in South Africa; the process of ending apartheid and negotiating a new political reality for all. We talked of this promising but difficult situation, especially the recent violence.

After all, we have seen, in other parts of the world, the culture of political violence overwhelm the culture of dialogue. This must not happen to South Africa. The government has a special responsibility to maintain order. But all political parties and groups have a special responsibility to support the process of peaceful transition.

One thing is apparent in this process of change -- the move away from apartheid, toward a new political reality, is irreversible. Just look at what has happened.

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Who among us would have anticipated these remarkable developments only a year ago. Clearly, the time has come to encourage and assist the emerging new South Africa.\\\

We are often asked what we want to see happen in South Africa. Well, I'm not here to endorse F.W. deKlerk, just as I did not endorse Nelson Mandela when we stood together in June. What I am here to endorse is the principle of constitutional, democratic government in South Africa. And I am here to tell you that I have enormous respect for what President deKlerk and Nelson Mandela are trying to achieve together in pursuit of this principle.

South Africa needs a constitutional system based on regular and free elections; a civil society, where authority is responsible in every sense of the word. South Africa needs an

unvarying respect for human rights, including a free press and an independent judiciary.

We would also like to see an economic system that is based on freedom, individual initiative and market forces. We believe that only a society that is open to opportunity can remedy the social and economic injuries inflicted on so many people for so many years by apartheid.

Some might say that I've been too prescriptive. But the prescriptions come not from me, but from a dozen lands. From Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland. From what is now, but will soon no longer be, East Germany. From Nicaragua, Chile, parts of Africa, even the Soviet Union. We are learning to see South Africa in that context -- the context of a changing world.

And it is in such a context that issue of sanctions often arises. Although our meetings today were not about sanctions, obviously the topic did come up. Let me just say a word about them.

Once again, we believe the process of change in South Africa is irreversible -- a fact we will bear squarely in mind as we consult and make decisions in the weeks and months ahead. Our goal must be to support the process of change.

Of course, I will need to consult fully with Congress on these issues. As you know, all the conditions set in some of our legislation have not yet been met.

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Finally, we will need to be in touch with our traditional Allies in Western Europe and elsewhere on what we can do to help build democracy in South Africa. It is only in this way that South Africa can again be fully accepted into the wider international community. In particular, we look for an early return to full participation in the international financial community. And let me also suggest allowing South African athletes, drawn from all parts of society, to compete in the 1992 Olympics.

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Mr. President, if you are successful in this effort, South Africa will become a beloved country, not for one people, but for its many peoples. For that, you leave with our gratitude, appreciation and a hearty Godspeed.\\\

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

TO POTUS  
Fri. 9/21  
6:40pm

September 21, 1990

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FROM:                MARK DAVIS *MD*  
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