

S African official on talks with Mozambique *(Excerpt from interview with Glenn Babb, South African Deputy Director General of Foreign Affairs)*

[No opening question as heard]. [Babb] (?The message) from president Chissano to President Botha was the recommendation that the joint security commission meet again. That commission was established in terms of the Nkomati accord, and in the response by President Botha he said that it's time we stopped our accusations and counteraccusations, whatever their motives might be. One of the accusations which Mozambique never stops to make is that we are still supporting Renamo, and they know that this is not the case. We wish to ensure that from now on we talk to one another, if there are security concerns, in a discreet fashion, and that we don't use it as propaganda. That might lead to the point where we can then establish contact between the presidents, so that they can talk of more fundamental things, such as economic co-operation. One forgets that 250,000 South African tourists used to visit Lourenco Marques [former name for Maputo] over an Easter weekend. One hopes that that situation will be revived... *(Johannesburg in English for abroad 1515 gmt 3 May 88)* ME/C143, B/1 5/5/88