

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

February 8, 1984

Dear Colleague:

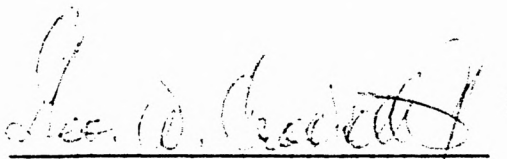
Aware of your special concern for human and civil rights throughout the world, we are asking you to join us in cosponsoring the attached Resolution seeking the release of Nelson and Winnie Mandela, black South African leaders held in detention for more than 20 years.

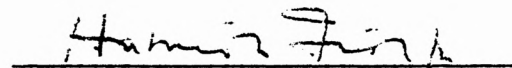
The apartheid system in South Africa is, as you know, the last bastion of colonialism and systematized racism in the world. Nelson and Winnie Mandela are in the vanguard of the struggle by black South Africans to overturn that system. Nelson Mandela, a leader of the African National Congress, was convicted in 1964 and sentenced to life imprisonment -- without hope of parole -- for "seeking to overthrow the government with violence." His wife, Winnie Mandela, has been "free" only eleven months since 1962, when she was banned for her part in founding the Black Parents Association.

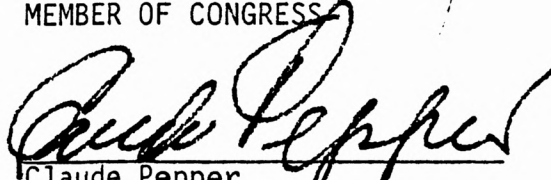
Our Resolution calls upon the South African government to release Nelson and Winnie Mandela and requests that the President of the United States use his good offices to achieve this objective.

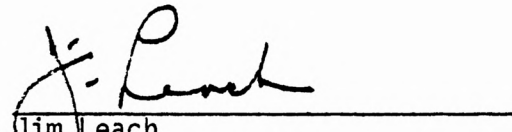
We urge your support of this Resolution. If you are interested in becoming a co-sponsor, please contact Alan Bowser of Congressman Crockett's office (52261) or Tom Schatz in the office of Congressman Fish (55441).

Sincerely,


Geo. W. Crockett, Jr.
MEMBER OF CONGRESS


Hamilton Fish, Jr.
MEMBER OF CONGRESS


Claude Pepper
MEMBER OF CONGRESS


Jim Leach
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

98th CONGRESS
2nd. SESSION

H. RES. _____

(Original signature of Member)

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Pepper, Mr. Fish and Mr. Leach
Mr. ~~Crockett~~, for himself and submitted the following resolution; which was

referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Resolved,

WHEREAS the Republic of South Africa has excluded Blacks and other nonwhites from participation in the government of their country by means of a system of racially discriminatory laws and practices known as the apartheid system;

WHEREAS the South African practice of apartheid is based on violence, exploitation and deprivation of basic human and civil rights, is incompatible with the dignity of mankind and contravenes the most fundamental human and political rights as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

WHEREAS the government of the United States, the United Nations and virtually every country in the world condemns the practice of apartheid by the government of South Africa;

WHEREAS in 1944, Nelson Mandela joined, and later led, the banned African National Congress, which is committed to eradicating the South African government's official policy of racial apartheid and in its place erecting a society in which the rights of all South African citizens shall be the same, regardless of race, color or sex;

WHEREAS in 1964, when he was already in jail under a five year sentence for "inciting strikes and leaving the country without a permit," Nelson Mandela was again brought to trial and sentenced to life imprisonment "for seeking to overthrow the government with violence" and has been incarcerated ever since that time; WHEREAS now, after twenty years in prison, Nelson Mandela nevertheless remains the leading symbol of resistance to political oppression, race and color prejudice in South Africa and the most widely recognized leader of that country's Black majority population;

WHEREAS Winnie Mandela, the wife of Nelson Mandela and one of the most prominent and highly respected leaders of the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa, was arrested twenty years ago and, despite the fact that she has never been convicted of any offense except violations of her banning orders, has been systematically banned, detained, harassed and abused by South Africa's security police and has spent less than eleven months of the past twenty years in "freedom;"

WHEREAS Winnie Mandela, as a "banned" citizen of South Africa, is confined to a "home" designated by the State and far removed from her friends and family, is not permitted to meet with more than one person at a time, may not be quoted or write any material for publication, and is prohibited from having her name or photograph appear in print anywhere in South Africa; and

WHEREAS the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa exemplifies the loftiest ideals and aspirations of the American people and all freedom-loving peoples the world over;

RESOLVED, THAT IT IS THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT

- 1) the government of the Republic of South Africa should immediately release and free Nelson Mandela from prison and should revoke and cancel Winnie Mandela's banning order;
- 2) the President of the United States should use his good offices to secure the release and freedom of Nelson and Winnie Mandela;
- 3) the Speaker of the House of Representatives is requested to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the President of the United States and to the Prime Minister of the Republic of South Africa.