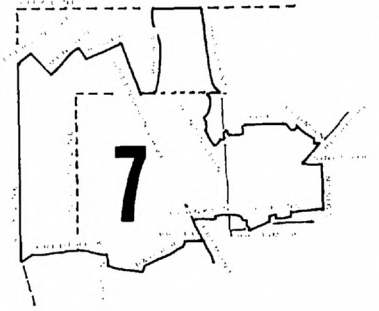




NEWS FROM

**CONGRESSMAN
PARREN J. MITCHELL**

7th Congressional District, Maryland



414 Cannon Bldg. • Washington, D.C. 20515 • Phone: (202) 225-4741 •

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1977
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**MITCHELL STATEMENT ON MINORITY BUSINESS
IN SOUTH AFRICA**

"UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL I SUPPORT ANY TYPE OF BUSINESS, MINORITY OR NON-MINORITY, DEALINGS WITH SOUTH AFRICA," CONGRESSMAN PARREN J. MITCHELL (D-7TH-MD.) STATED TODAY IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

IT WAS RECENTLY REPORTED THAT A WHITE-OWNED COMPANY IN SOUTH AFRICA MAY TEAM WITH A BLACK-OWNED UNITED STATES FIRM TO SEEK A FEDERAL CONTRACT TO MANUFACTURE 1.2 MILLION CONCRETE RAIL TIES FOR USE IN A \$1.7 BILLION PROJECT TO UPGRADE TRACKS IN THE NORTHWEST CORRIDOR FROM BOSTON TO WASHINGTON AND THAT MR. MITCHELL FAVORED SUCH A CONTRACT.

MR. MITCHELL, CHAIRMAN OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ESCALATE ITS COMMITMENT TO MINORITIES IN BUSINESS, BUT FURTHER STATED, "WHILE I WILL CONTINUE TO FIGHT AT HOME AND ABROAD FOR MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE, IT IS NOT TRUE THAT EITHER I OR THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS SUPPORT A BUSINESS CONTRACT BETWEEN A BLACK OWNED U.S. COMPANY AND A WHITE-OWNED SOUTH AFRICAN COMPANY."

CONGRESSMAN MITCHELL MADE THESE FACTS KNOWN TODAY BEFORE AN OVERFLOWING AUDIENCE AS HE PARTICIPATED IN A DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PROGRAM IN WASHINGTON TO PROMOTE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

