

SEP 1 1971

W. E. D. STOKES, JR.
"THISTLEWOOD" - BOX 864
LENOX, MASS. 01240



30th August, 1971

Honorable Charles Diggs
House Office Building
Washington
District of Columbia

My dear Congresssman Diggs:

Have received a letter from a personal friend in Africa who belongs to the same engineering society and I am sure that you will be interested in the impression that you left down there in your recent instantaneous visit. I wish that in-laws would make their round trips as instantaneously.

The radio commentator's observation of your trip seems unfortunate and not likely to promote friendly relations. Goodness knows, this country needs friends and has few to count on. At the present moment I cannot remember any country in the wide world who would stand up for us with the possible exception of Israel and there again I would have my doubts.

We need the friendship of the countries in Southern Africa because the tanker route from the Persian Gulf to the U.S., Europe and Japan goes right along their coast line.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. E. D. Stokes, Jr.", written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

