

AUG 15 1962



Ref. No. :

EMBASSY OF SOUTH AFRICA  
AMBASSADE VAN SUID-AFRIKA  
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

14th August, 1962.  
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Dear Mr. Diggs,

My absence from Washington for the better part of two months deprived me of the opportunity of replying earlier to your letter of the 14th June, 1962, but I am confident that the delay will not have diminished your interest in getting to the truth of things.

It would appear from your remarks that the basic principle of my Government's policy of separate growth in separate freedom might not have come to your notice.

You will know that by and large the areas predominantly settled on the one hand by the men of Europe and on the other by the Bantu upon their immigration - centuries ago - into what is today South Africa coincide with the areas now occupied by these respective groups. Thus, there is the Transkei (to take one of the territories hitherto recognized as being for the exclusive use of the Xhosa nation), which is amongst the several slated for eventual self-government, and independence should the inhabitants desire it.

--- You may find the attached statement by Prime Minister Verwoerd on the constitutional proposals for the Transkei of some use in affording an opportunity of judging the situation on its merits.

You will see that the philosophy underlying the policy of the South African Government is that each group constituting a nation has since the nation state became an historic phenomenon had the right to its own identity : distinctive national identities aspire to separate national destinies. Thus it is that the policy is implemented by making it possible for the Bantu to build their own nationhood on the foundations of their own institutions, traditions and heritage.

With medical and social services and educational facilities of a high order (there are more Bantu university graduates than in any other country in Africa), made possible by an economy which provides the highest per capita income in Africa, the Bantu in South Africa can move onwards in the process of self-realization. This is in our view, in the unique circumstances of South Africa today, the course of self-determination, and of the dignity of men.

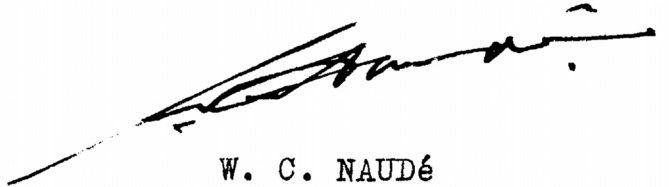
May I thank you for your undoubted interest in the great experiment in multi-nation co-existence in which

South Africa / ...

The Hon. CHARLES C. DIGGS, Jr.,  
House of Representatives,  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

South Africa is engaged ? Should you care to read some supplementary literature on the subject, the Embassy would be happy to supply it.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. C. NAUDÉ', written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

W. C. NAUDÉ  
A M B A S S A D O R.