

October 3, 1969

Mr. Frank Shakespeare
Director
United States Information Agency
1776 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Shakespeare:

On Thursday, October 2, as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Africa, House Foreign Affairs Committee, I hosted a luncheon for the Honorable Helen Suzman, who as you know is the only liberal member of the South African Parliament. Among the comments that she made was the fact that she seldom got good news about race relations in the United States. On the contrary, the South African press exploits all the negative aspects of our domestic problem on this subject.

Based upon this discussion, I respectfully submit the following suggestions:

1. That a special effort be made to provide Mrs. Suzman with positive stories about U. S. race relations that she can utilize as she sees fit.
2. There are other people in the Republic holding similar views who should be the recipients of the same information. I am sure that appropriate research would uncover who they are.
3. A comprehensive review of USIS activities in the Republic should be undertaken to counteract the South African exploitation of negative aspects of our race relations.
4. A similar review should be undertaken to evaluate the effect of USIS activities in other African countries.

Sincerely,

CHARLES C. DIGGS, JR.
Chairman, Subcommittee on Africa
House Foreign Affairs Committee

CCD/t