

# special report:

# diggs

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## DIGGS SUBCOMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE NUCLEAR EXPORTS TO SOUTH AFRICA

Congressman Charles C. Diggs, Jr., Chairman, Subcommittee on International Resources, Food and Energy, announced that the Subcommittee will hold the first in a series of hearings on South Africa tomorrow, Tuesday, May 25, at 2:00 pm, in Room 2255, Rayburn Building. Chairman Diggs states that a major emphasis in this first day of hearings would be the issue of U.S. export of nuclear materials and technology to South Africa. "This is critical in light of reports that the State Department may have already decided to approve the sale by General Electric Company of two nuclear reactors and special nuclear material (enriched uranium) to South Africa," stated Congressman Diggs.

On this matter, the Congressman sent a telegram to Secretary of State Kissinger today strongly urging him to exert all maximum efforts to assure that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission does not approve the applications of the General Electric Company, Inc. for licenses to authorize the export of two nuclear reactors and nuclear materials to South Africa, and that the Export-Import Bank does not issue a final commitment for the guarantee of a loan of about \$256 million to finance the G.E. sales. Chairman Diggs emphasized that "such support for the minority regime in South Africa would belie recent Administration statements of support for majority rule in southern Africa and would reduce the beneficial results of your (Secretary Kissinger's) recent trip to Africa."

The May 25 hearing is the first in a series entitled "Resource Development in South Africa and U.S. Policy," and will include testimony from representatives of the Department of State, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and Export-Import Bank, as well as a private witness, Dr. John Marcum, Provost, Merrill College. Follow-up hearings will be held on June 1 when the Subcommittee hopes to hear additional testimony from General Electric and the Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA) on nuclear transfers to South Africa, and on June 3 and 8. All hearings are scheduled at 2:00 pm, Room 2255, Rayburn House Office Building.

The text of Chairman Diggs' May 24 telegram to Secretary Kissinger follows:

"Strongly urge you to exert all maximum efforts to assure that: (1) the Nuclear Regulatory Commission does not approve the applications of the General Electric Company, Inc. for licenses to authorize the export of two nuclear reactors and special nuclear material (enriched uranium) to South Africa; and (2) the Export-Import Bank does not issue a final commitment for the guarantee of a loan of about \$256 million to finance General Electric's sale of nuclear power plants (two units) to South Africa.

Such support for the minority regime in South Africa would belie recent Administration statements of support for majority rule in southern Africa and would reduce the beneficial results of your recent trip to Africa."

