



RONALD V. DELLUMS
8TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

CHAIRPERSON,
COMMITTEE ON THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSON,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
MILITARY INSTALLATIONS
AND FACILITIES

2136 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 226-2661



**Congress of the United States
House of Representatives**

201 13TH STREET, SUITE 105
OAKLAND, CA 94617
(415) 763-0370

9424 EAST 14TH STREET
OAKLAND, CA 94621
(415) 562-4981

2490 CHANNING WAY, SUITE 217
BERKELEY, CA 94704
(415) 548-7787

3557 MT. DIABLO BOULEVARD
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549
(415) 283-8125

**NEW STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED -
BRUTAL CRACKDOWN UNDERWAY -
MORE THAN A THOUSAND ARRESTED
YESTERDAY**

JUNE 13, 1986

DEAR COLLEAGUE:

END

APARTHEID

Next week the House will consider legislation to impose additional sanctions on South Africa. This legislation is a further step in the right direction.

But the situation in South Africa is rapidly worsening. I believe that we must pass legislation that imposes full sanctions and requires immediate disinvestment. Accordingly, I will offer an amendment in the nature of a substitute to accomplish this. In the event that the substitute does not pass, I will offer a series of strengthening amendments.

I know that you stand against apartheid and ask that you cast your vote for the substitute and other strengthening amendments.

Since our last vote and after the President's Executive Order, State President P. W. Botha invoked the Public Safety Act of 1953 to proclaim an official state of emergency in 36 magisterial districts, mostly in Black townships and the surrounding areas. He then imposed severe restrictions on all media coverage of the growing country-wide protests against this increased oppression. As a consequence, the world community has not been able to monitor closely the steadily deteriorating situation there, caused by the increased recourse to government-initiated violence against the 72% Black majority that is struggling for freedom and human dignity. Though the state of emergency has been lifted, virtually nothing has changed for the millions of Black South Africans who continue to live under oppressive conditions.

Despite the blatant attempts at censorship through intimidation, organizations as disparate as the South African Institute of Race Relations and the State Department's "Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 1985" both state that almost 900 people were killed last year and more than 11,000 were "detained" by the police and security forces there.

Earlier this year, Amnesty International/USA published a 112-page report entitled "South Africa: Imprisonment Under the Pass Laws". It stated that in 1984, 238,000 people were reported to have been arrested because of alleged violation of the so-called pass laws or related legislation. Thousands of these people then were put to work for white farmers under "what is officially described as parole but in essence is closer to a system of forced labor." Whether in prison or working on farms, these victims were often subject to systematic beatings (also described in detail in the State Department report), before being exiled to the Black "homelands" -- that 13% of South African territory where the Black majority are "allowed" to live without special permission from the apartheid government.

This past April, Nobel Laureate Bishop Desmond Tutu called for punitive economic sanctions against South Africa, risking a charge of treason.

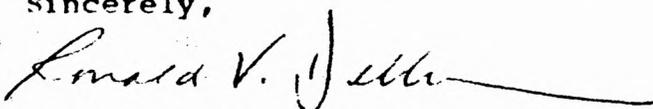
The Anglican Bishop told a news conference:

I have no hope of change from this government unless they are forced. We face a catastrophe in the land and only the action of the international community, by applying pressure, can save us. Our children are dying. Our land is burning and bleeding, and so I call on the international community to apply punitive sanctions against this government to help us establish a new South Africa -- non-racial, democratic, participatory and just.

How can we not support such a call?

The Congress now stands at a moral crossroad in its modern history. We must take that action that is required by the intensifying crisis. I hope you can support these efforts.

Sincerely,



Ronald V. Dellums
Member of Congress

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