

Congressional Black Caucus

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MEMORANDUM TO CBC MEMBERS

FROM: Ronald V. Dellums, Chairman - CBC Disinvestment Committee
Mickey Leland, Edolphus Towns

SUBJ: Report on Companies doing Business in South Africa

On December 9, 1985, Members of the CBC Disinvestment Committee met with the Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Office Systems, Charles Rose, regarding numerous Caucus requests for an up-to-date report on companies doing business in South Africa. At that meeting, we received responses forwarded from those companies who appear on the House Administration list authorizing purchase or lease agreements by offices of the House of Representatives. We were encouraged by the tone of this session and outline the conclusions as follows:

- o Chairman Rose will approve and assist CBC members in severing any existing purchase or lease agreement based on the issue of respective companies doing business in South Africa. Where there is a need for the Clerk to acquire equipment currently housed in Members offices, the Subcommittee will facilitate that process and the Chairman will approve purchase or lease of new equipment.
- o Chairman Rose will support such recommendations as the Caucus shall propose and bring before both the Subcommittee on Office Systems and the full House Administration Committee notice of CBC action severing contracts. Mr. Rose also indicated a willingness to discuss potential options for action by the full House, once the Congressional Black Caucus has determined its proposed course of action including the following:
 - additional notice to the Clerk, Doorkeeper, Capitol Hill Police, The Architect, the Post Master, and the Sergeant at Arms -- who enter into separate contracts

- Congressman Rose, if requested by the CBC, will propose to the Subcommittee that the next quarterly printing of the list of approved companies carry notification of each company that continues to do business in South Africa. He would also consider the addition of such notice to be included on printed lease/purchase contracts.

The underlying issue is a decision by the Caucus to propose House action. Numerous alternatives exist with the initial consideration of either a selective or total boycott.

Attachment