

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. briefing paper	Background, Truth and Reconciliation Commission (4 pages)	03/11/1997	P1/b(1)
002. reports	bios (8 pages)	c 03/1997	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Speechwriting (Noa Meyer Subject Files)
OA/Box Number: 13006

FOLDER TITLE:

The Trip of the First Lady to Senegal, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Uganda, and
Eritrea, March 15-29, 1997 (Shipley, S Africa, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Uganda, Eritrea)
[Binder] [2]

2012-0869-S

kc967

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
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- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
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South Africa: Lunch at the Spier Wine Estate

Most of the scores of wine estates in the Cape have great scenery, food, and local wine. But Spier Wine Estate is noteworthy for expanding its business in partnership with previously excluded groups and communities. The most progressive wine estate in the area, Spier is also the only one to import and promote American wines, partly because of wine master Jabulani Ntshangase, a former Sowetan who spent two decades in the U.S. wine industry and who now is training a cadre of black South African winemakers.

Your visit to the estate provides an opportunity to view the magnificent scenery for which Cape Town and its surrounds are renowned.

DRAFT**SPEIR WINE ESTATE LUNCHEON**

Lynedoch Road
Stellenbosch, South Africa
Phone: (021) 881-3096

Date: Wednesday, March 19, 1997
12:30pm

Participants: *HRC*

Ambassador and Mrs. Joseph

Others TBD.

Press: ?

Attire: Casual

HRC and guests are greeted upon arrival by Craig Seaman, manager of Speir Wine Estate.

Luncheon Guests will be escorted to DIE OPSTAL (The Manor House) -- a South African National Monument, which dates back to 1820 -- for an informal wine tasting. Mrs. Clinton and the other luncheon guests will have the opportunity to change clothes and freshen up prior to the wine tasting.

Upon the conclusion of the wine tasting, HRC and guests will be escorted next door to the JONKERSHUIS Restaurant for lunch. Seating will be outside in a canopied area within close proximity to the estate's rose garden. The restaurant serves Dutch/East Indian/Malay cuisine which is offered as a self-service buffet. These traditional South African dishes can be accompanied by a variety of the estate's vintages.

Following lunch, Mrs. Clinton and her guests will have the opportunity to visit the WINE CENTRE. Bottles of Speir Wine -- as well as wine from neighbouring estates -- can be purchased at that time.

Departure en route Cape Grace Hotel.

Staff Note: A set price of approximately R?/person will be collected in advance to pay for lunch.

1ST STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1997 Africa News Service, Inc.
Africa News

February 28, 1997

SECTION: NEWS, DOCUMENTS & COMMENTARY

LENGTH: 334 words

HEADLINE: South Africa;
From Waterfront to wine estate

BYLINE: Chene Blignaut, Staff Reporter, Cape Argus (Cape Town)

BODY:

Cape Town - A new railway station opposite Spier wine estate near Stellenbosch, linking the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront to the Winelands, has been officially opened.

The construction of the Cape Dutch-style station was commissioned by Spier, using contractors from previously disadvantaged communities.

Intersite Property Management Services, the property arm of the SA Rail Commuter Corporation, was approached by Spier, which wanted a station close to the estate to enable people to catch the Spier steam train from the Waterfront.

A lease agreement for the land on the railway reserve opposite the Spier estate was negotiated.

Intersite regional manager Kevin Roman said the link-up with Spier was in line with the company's vision to transport people at any time - not just to and from work.

Negotiations were underway to extend the platform to accommodate a 12-coach commuter train.

"This will open up the wine farm to local tourists who rely on trains for transport.

"It is also in line with our objective to facilitate maximum private sector involvement in the portfolios we manage," said Mr Roman.

Opening the new station this week, Western Cape Economic Affairs Minister Chris Nissen hailed it as an ideal illustration of the successful partnership which needed to be created between the state and the private sector in the development of the country's economy.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 12, 1997

2ND STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1997 Newspaper Publishing PLC
The Independent

February 11, 1997, Tuesday

SECTION: INTERNATIONAL; Page 12

LENGTH: 948 words

HEADLINE: SA wine growers sip at last chance saloon liberal boycott; Racial conflict: Calls for boycott by British liberals to support plight of black workers on slave wages rejected for now

BYLINE: Mary Braid Cape Town

BODY:

After weeks of vicious debate about racism, slave labour and immorality in the South African wine industry, the Cape wine fraternity finally agreed on something yesterday - no one wants the British to interfere by mounting a post-apartheid wine boycott.

The warning to liberal, well-meaning Britons is the latest twist in a saga which began last month when John Platter, the celebrated South African wine writer, lambasted the Cape's all-white winelands establishment on BBC Radio 4 over its plans to share out 2bn (about pounds 285m) to 5bn rand of assets, accumulated during the apartheid years, among 4,700 white farmers. Mr Platter exposed the industry's exploitation of tens of thousands of Cape Coloured labourers and its barbaric use of political and criminal prisoners as slave labour until the early 1980s. Yesterday, at his vineyard near Stellenbosch, he taking nothing back. In a letter to the Afrikaans newspaper Die Burger last x he suggested the industry's restructuring - or privatisation - amounted to "looting" and denounced the move as out of step with attempts to redress the injustices of the past.

But he was furious at Die Burger reports yesterday associating him with suggestions in a British Sunday newspaper that a European boycott might be in order. "A boycott would be completely counter-productive to producers and labourers," he said. Worse, the boycott call obscures the real issues and gives white owners somewhere to hide.

At home, the KWV, the cooperative of vineyard owners which has proposed its own privatisation, has condemned Mr Platter and his wife Erica as traitors. Neighbours have burned copies of the couple's annual wine guide - the bible on South African wine - and local farmers are promising to mount their own boycott - of next year's Platter guide.

At the centre of the row are tens of thousands of Cape Coloureds who, three years after the end of white minority rule, still toil in the vineyards for as little as R100 a week - the price of two bottles of South African red or white in a British supermarket - and a daily dop (drink) of half a litre of wine.

According to Grant Twigg, the general secretary of the Farm Food and Rural Workers Union, also a Cape Coloured, the daily wine quota keeps the vineyard workers docile and too dependent to leave the industry. Alcoholism, he claims, is deliberately encouraged by many farmers. He, like the Platters, argues that

The Independent, February 11, 1997

the workers have a right to share in the benefits accrued during the apartheid years.

Since the early 1990s, he says, the industry has seen some improvements but the vast majority of workers are still appallingly exploited, despite 6 per cent annual growth in the domestic market and a 38 per cent increase between 1995 and 1996 in overseas sales.

But he too rejects the idea of an overseas boycott. "During the years of apartheid my union supported sanctions," he said. "But in this case a growing industry and particularly its workers would suffer."

The Platter camp is attempting to force KWV to hive off a significant portion of the apartheid-era assets to transform an industry run by whites for whites. They want to bring blacks and Coloureds into management and ownership.

So far they have succeeded in persuading Derek Hanekom, the Agriculture Minister, to halt KWV's privatisation plans while an inquiry takes place. They argue that this is a rare case when doing the right thing is also good for business.

With blacks involved in the business, the pleasures of wine would be filter though to the black community, and boost home sales. That is the dream of Jubalane Nstangase, currently the only black manager in the Cape winelands and a one-off in the South African wine trade.

Raised in Soweto, he learned the wine trade while in exile in New York.

He began importing South African wines to the US in 1992 and finally returned to his native country in 1995, where he was hired by the white entrepreneur Dick Enthoven, owner of the Spier Wine Estate.

Mr Nstangase was employed to create a few waves, but like some "token" blacks taken on by big business, his mouth has proved bigger than his boss probably anticipated.

This week the heat is on. The Afrikaans papers is crammed with criticism and still Mr Nstangase cannot stop talking. On a Sunday - a big day for visitors - on the Spier estate, Mr Nstangase sticks out; the only other blacks are serving in the wine shop or trailing an endless stream of little blonde girls around a large lawn on ponies.

The wine industry he describes is rotten with racism. He came back to South Africa to realise a dream. "When I was importing, my American customers always asked the same questions - how many blacks were employed in management of estates, how many black owners were there, how many black exporters were there?"

Of course there were none. He came home to change that; to open the business and the product up to blacks. Much is made of professional whites leaving South Africa. Blacks who returned with skills, only to be hampered by white intransigence and invested interests, are somehow invisible. "If you mention black empowerment in the wine industry, everyone cringes," he says.

He is angry at recent comments by a KWV official that wine is always a white-dominated sphere, in any country. "That's just the sort of thing they

The Independent, February 11, 1997

used to say when I was growing up. It was the excuse they gave for not paying whites and blacks the same wages. "Look around," he added, gazing across the town towards another smart restaurant devoid of black visitors. "If I didn't come here as a black man I would never come in."

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

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VISIT TO TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION

Date: Wednesday, March 19
4:30 pm

Location: 106 Adderly Street, Capetown
Tel. (021) 245-165

Participants: Archbishop Desmond Tutu
Dr. Alex Boraine, Commission Vice Chair
Ambassador Joseph
15 TRC commissioners

Press: Pool

Scenario: HRC is met curbside by Archbishop Tutu and Dr. Boraine. They proceed to elevator and up to TRC's offices. [Note: Staff and press will follow on subsequent elevators]. HRC, Tutu, Boraine and Ambassador Joseph enter the commission room where Tutu will introduce HRC to the 15 other commissioners. They will be seated at the head of the table. [Note: there will be a few seats for staff]. Once the discussion begins, the press will be escorted into the room in two shifts. At the conclusion of the discussion, HRC and Tutu will proceed to motorcade for departure.

Note: All staff will remain in the lobby except for the following people who will follow HRC into the commission room:

Maggie Williams
Melanne Verveer
Geroge Moosc
Susan Rice

Attire: Business

South Africa: Visit to Cowley House and Tree Planting

Context

approx. 1 hour Friday

Cowley House, originally an Anglican monastery housing a dozen monks, was converted during the depths of the apartheid era into a temporary lodging facility for family members visiting political prisoners on Robben Island. Families of political prisoners such as the Mandelas, Sisulus, and Mbekis stayed in Cowley House when they traveled to Cape Town for visitation purposes. With the ending of apartheid and the freeing of the political prisoners, Cowley House served as a way station to help orient freed prisoners into modern society.

How any of them been treated in T&R
The Garden of Remembrance (in the yard of Cowley House) features trees and shrubs planted by families from the nearby town of Paarl. During the apartheid era some 15 young people from Paarl went into exile and died under uncertain circumstances outside the country. Their families never recovered the bodies or received an accurate accounting of their deaths. The garden was created in memory of those young people and for all victims of violence in the apartheid era. *tree for every life?*

Cowley House is now being refurbished to house the Trauma Center, which offers treatment and a haven for victims of abuse, trauma, and torture. Currently in temporary facilities nearby, the Trauma Center serves victims of domestic and other violence, offers walk-in counseling, and provides shelter for those shunned elsewhere. *continues its work on being a safe place to heal*

Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu is a strong supporter of Cowley House and its Trauma Center. The director of the Trauma Center is Ms. Nomfundo Walaza, a clinical psychologist. Father Michael Lapsley, an Anglican priest and anti-apartheid activist who lost both hands to a government-instigated letter bomb, is also an active member of the Trauma Center management. *Repair the world.*

Archbishop Emeritus Tutu and Ms. Walaza will officiate at the dedication. A few former political prisoners and several of the families from Paarl will attend. The renowned University Choir for Africa will perform a musical number.

Objectives

- o To participate in the formal dedication of the Garden of Remembrance by planting a tree and unveiling a plaque. This will be a visible tribute to the victims of apartheid, indicating that they will not be forgotten.
- o To acknowledge efforts by the Trauma Center and others working in South Africa today to make whole those lives shattered by violence.

Talking Points

- It is well to remember that, although South Africa's transition to democracy is recognized as a peaceful one, for many of those at the forefront of the struggle it was anything but peaceful.
- The Garden of Remembrance brings home the anguish and suffering not only of the victims of apartheid, but of their families as well. It is a living symbol of the dedication of families and the community to the values for which so many paid the ultimate sacrifice.
- I am honored to be able to participate with Archbishop Emeritus Tutu in this ceremony, which in a small way demonstrates remembrance by the United States of those who suffered violence under apartheid, and support for those who work every day to overcome the results of domestic and other violence.

VISIT TO COWLEY HOUSE

126 Chapel Street
Cape Town, South Africa
Phone: (021) 45-7373

DRAFT

Date: Wednesday, March 19, 1997

5:30pm

Participants: *HRC*

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Ms. Nomfundo Walaza, Director of Cowley House & Clinical Psychologist.

XXX, deliverer of opening prayer

XXX, representative of families/victims who utilise Cowley House

Press: Open

Upon arrival, HRC and Archbishop Tutu are greeted by Dr. Walaza and escorted into the courtyard for a short briefing on the history, focus, and operations of Cowley House.

The participants will then proceed to the Garden of Remembrance to deliver remarks to an assemblage of Cowley House's client/patients, supporters, and guests. Approximately 150 people will be in attendance.

The University of Cape Town's *Choir for Africa* will sing traditional songs as the participants enter the garden area.

Once positioned, XXX will offer an opening prayer.

Archbishop Tutu will then deliver brief remarks.

XXX will then deliver remarks on behalf of the families who utilise Cowley House.

Director Walaza will then deliver brief remarks and introduce Mrs. Clinton.

Mrs. Clinton delivers remarks.

Upon the Conclusion of Mrs. Clinton's remarks, the HRC and Archbishop Tutu will proceed to an adjacent area for the planting of a commemorative tree in the Garden of Remembrance.

Upon the conclusion of the tree planting, HRC works a ropeline from right to left and departs.

(The Choir for Africa will sing during the ropeline movement.)

N.B. Invited guests and audience members will remain at Cowley House following HRC's departure as refreshments will be served.



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

MAR 13 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR MELANNE VERVEER

When I was in Cape Town for the meeting of the Gore-Mbeki Binational Commission, I joined the South African Minister of Health, Dr. Nkosazana Zuma, in signing a Joint Statement on Violence as a Public Health Problem. Because the First Lady will visit the Cape Town Trauma Center for Victims of Violence and Torture, I thought you would be interested in this violence prevention effort.

We will assist in the development in South Africa of a regional center for Africa that would establish definitions, guidelines and methodologies for violence surveillance throughout the continent. The regional center would play a very important role in carrying out the plan of action for the World Health Organization's violence prevention project.

Collaborative efforts will include:

1. Development of health surveillance systems to measure, document, and monitor both intentional and unintentional injuries.
2. Development, sharing, and application of models for addressing violence prevention from a public health perspective to facilitate violence prevention efforts.
3. Identification of causal risk factors.
4. Development and testing of community-based violence prevention and control approaches and interventions.
5. Research on such topics as the links between drug use and crime and the relationship among violence, drug abuse, and health.

Donna E. Shalala

Cape Town

Victoria Mxenge Housing Initiative
Spier Wine Estate
Truth and Reconciliation Commission Meeting
Cowley House
Dinner Hosted by Ambassador
Courtesy Call on President Mandela
Speech at University of Cape Town
Fundraiser/Dinner on Robben Island
Embassy Meet and Greet

BACKGROUND ON ZIMBABWE

- Map
- Background notes/Country profile
- U.S./Zimbabwe Relations
- Political Overview
- Economic Overview
- Women's Issues
- Children's Issues
- Education
- Involvement in the U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women
- Population and Family Planning
- Health Issues
- Human Rights
- Environment
- U.S. Assistance
- U.S. Embassy
- Etiquette
- Arrival and Departure Statements
- Q&A

Bios

Peace Corps

EVENTS IN ZIMBABWE

Meeting with U.S. Mission Community

Harare

Courtesy Call on President Mugabe
Women's Roundtable
Kuwadzana Health Clinic
Zambuko Trust / Micro Credit
Victoria Falls

BACKGROUND ON TANZANIA

- Map
- Background notes/Country profile
- U.S./Tanzania Relations
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- Etiquette
- Great Lakes Crisis
- Arrival and Departure Statements
- Q&A

Bios

Peace Corps

EVENTS IN TANZANIA

Dar Es Salaam

Courtesy Call on President Mkapa
Visit to ACG Systems
Women's Roundtable
Embassy Meet and Greet

Arusha

Kilimanjaro and Masai School Girls
U.N. War Crimes Tribunal
Masai Village
Reception Hosted by Government
OTR Dinner

Lake Manyara

Ngorongoro Crater
Serengeti National Park
Olduvai Gorge and Museum

BACKGROUND ON UGANDA

- Map
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- Q&A

Bios

Peace Corps

EVENTS IN UGANDA

Meeting with U.S. Embassy Community
Kampala
Courtesy Call on President Museveni
Reception Hosted by Government
Seguko Primary School
AIDS Information Center
Speech
FINCA/UWESO

BACKGROUND ON ERITREA

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- Environment
- U.S. Assistance
- U.S. Embassy
- Etiquette
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- Q&A

Bios

Peace Corps

EVENTS IN ERITREA

Asmara

National Service Tree Planting
BANA Woodwork Training Center
Embadorho Health Station
American Community Event
Women's Roundtable
Meeting with Eritrean First Lady
Courtesy Call on President Afworki

BACKGROUND ON SOUTH AFRICA

Fact Sheet - South Africa

Government

South Africa held its first all race elections in April of 1994 under an interim constitution. In November 1996 the permanent Constitution was passed by the bicameral National Assembly. President Mandela, after spending 27 years in prison has proved to be a solid, forward leaning leader increasingly inclined to involve himself in regional issues, such as SADC's Organ for Politics, Defense and Security, and peacekeeping efforts. The close relationship developed between Vice President Gore and Deputy Executive President Thabo Mbeki during the twice-annual Bi-National Commission meetings has helped smooth remaining difficulties in the bilateral relationship—largely caused by South Africa's continuing close relations with pariah states—including recent questions on the possible sale of tank-firing systems to Syria. NB: Discuss recent talks on Zaire.

The ANC, with 62% of the seats in Parliament dominates the local political scene. The National Party, which gained only 20% of Parliament's seats under former-President de Klerk, is trying to reform and attract black and colored voters, and may split into factions. Tensions between the ANC and the Inkatha Freedom Party (with 10% of the seats in Parliament) have eased since 1994, but sometimes boil over intra-Zulu fighting in Kwazulu-Natal province. The government needs to continue and speed the pace of economic, educational, and social sector reforms and aggressively promote job-creation to meet expectations of the majority population and quell tensions caused by continuing high unemployment and concentration of wealth in a small minority.

Economy

Since sanctions were lifted in July 1991 bilateral trade has grown to \$5 billion annually. South Africa is beginning to privatize parastatal industries including Telkom, for which Southwestern Bell has a \$1.5 billion joint tender with a Malaysian company pending. Total U.S. investment in South Africa is \$4.02 billion. Coke, Pepsi, Toys R Us, McDonalds, and Chrysler are some of the big names present in South Africa. Southwestern Bell, in partnership with Malaysia Telekom, just won (3/3) a strategic equity partnership bid to buy approximately 30% of South Africa Telkom, an investment of over \$1 billion. In June 1996 the SAG unveiled a forward-looking, market driven economic plan—Growth, Employment and Redistribution (GEAR)—calling for a reduction in tariffs and the deficit, budget reform, investor tax incentives, further privatization and an end to export subsidies. It aims for 6% economic growth and creation of 400,000 new jobs by 2000. With a 3% growth rate in 1996 and unemployment estimated at 35% South Africa has a long way to go, but is making progress. Reduction of the deficit to 5.1% of GDP (down from 8% in 1992), and maintaining inflation below 10% are good indicators that the program is off to a strong start. The U.S. grants South Africa Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) access, allowing duty free entry of 4,400 South African export products, totaling \$357 million in 1995.

Geography

Land area of 1,219,912 sq. km. slightly less than twice the size of Texas.

People

Population: 45,095,459 (July 1995), with 40% under 14 and only 4% over 65

Population growth rate: 2.61% (1995), with 33.39 births/1,000 population (1995)

Infant mortality rate: 45.8 deaths/1,000 live births (1995)

Life expectancy: average = 65.4 years, male = 62.6 years, female = 68.2 years

Fertility rate: 4.35 children born/woman (1995 est.)

Ethnicities: black 75.2%, white 13.6%, Colored 8.8%, Indian 2.6%

Religions: Christian (most whites and Coloreds and about 60% of blacks), Hindu (60% of Indians), Muslim 2%

Languages: eleven official languages, including Afrikaans, English, Ndebele, Pedi, Sotho, Swazi, Tsonga, Tswana, Venda, Xhosa, Zulu

Literacy: average = 76%, male = 78%, female 75%

Bilateral Assistance

USAID - FY94-96 \$600 million, FY 97-05 \$435 million

Peace Corps - 32 volunteers in country, 30 more due in October, \$1.4 million budget.

Self-help Funds - FY96 \$500,000, planning same for FY97

IMET - FY96 \$500,000, planning \$700,000 for FY97

USIA - \$6.3 million total; \$2 million educational exchanges, \$1.3 million BNC support.

Southern Africa Enterprise Development Fund (SAEDF) - \$100 million to expand indigenous business development with investment, loans, and loan guarantees.

OPIC - \$75 million equity investment fund, venture capital for US-S.Af. joint ventures

EXIM - \$255 million in loans and loan guarantees, mostly to purchase U.S. aircraft.

TDA - Trade Development Association - just opened office, creates "incentive" programs to level the playing field for U.S. companies bidding on contracts.

USAID has provided a massive program in support of South Africa's transition over the past three years focusing on consolidating democracy and reform of the civil service, spurring economic growth and job creation and meeting the need for education, housing and health care. AID will phase out in 2005. In the interim it will concentrate on "sustainable transformation" with projects in democracy and governance, health, economic policy capacity, private sector development, and housing and urban services.

Peace Corps' first ever group of 32 volunteers in South Africa arrived in February 1997. 30 more volunteers will arrive in October. They will all work on upgrading teaching skills for classroom teachers, sharpening school management skills and strengthening the severely weakened bonds between schools and the communities in which they are located.

November 1994



Official Name:
Republic of South Africa

PROFILE

Geography

Area: 12 million sq. km. (470,462 sq. mi.).
Capitals: *Administrative*—Pretoria
Legislative—Cape Town. *Judicial*—
Bloemfontein.
Other cities: Johannesburg, Soweto,
Durban.
Terrain: Plateau, savanna, desert,
mountains, coastal plains.
Climate: moderate; similar to southern
California.

People

Nationality: *Noun and adjective*—
South African(s).
Annual growth rate: 2.6%.
Population: 42.7 million (1993 est.).
Ethnic groups: African (black) 29.1 million;
white 5.5 million; colored (mixed race) 3.3
million; Asian (Indian) 1 million.

Languages: Afrikaans, English, Ndebele,
North Sotho, South Sotho, Swati, Tsonga,
Tswana, Venda, Xhosa and Zulu (all official
languages).

Religions: Predominantly Christian;
traditional African, Hindu, Muslim, Jewish.
Education: *Years compulsory*—7 yrs. for
all children but not currently enforced. An
estimated 2 million school-age children do
not attend school.

Health: *Infant mortality rate* (per 1,000
live births)—66. *Life expectancy*—65 yrs.,
women; 59 yrs., men.

Government

Type: *Executive*—president; under the
1993 transitional constitution, bicameral
Parliament.

Independence: The Union of South Africa
was created on May 31, 1910; became
sovereign state within British empire in
1934; became a Republic on May 31, 1961;
left the Commonwealth in October 1968.
Nonracial, democratic constitution came into
effect April 27, 1994; rejoined the
Commonwealth in May 1994.

Branches: *Executive*—president
(chief of state) elected to a five-year term
by the Parliament. *Legislative*—bicameral
Parliament consisting of 490 members
in two chambers. National Assembly
(400 members) elected by a system of
proportional representation for a maximum
five-year term. Senate consisting of 90
members elected by the Provincial
Legislatures (10 senators from each
province). *Judicial*—Supreme Court
consisting of Appellate Division in
Bloemfontein and nine provincial divisions.
Constitutional Court with power to override
Parliament.

Administrative subdivisions: Nine
provinces: Northern Cape, Western Cape,
Eastern Cape, North-West, Northern
Transvaal, Eastern Transvaal, PVW

(Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging),
Orange Free State, Kwazulu/Natal.
Political parties: African National
Congress (ANC), National Party (NP),
Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP),
Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front (FF),
Democratic Party (DP), Pan-African
Congress (PAC), African Christian
Democratic Party (ACDP). *Suffrage*—
Citizens and permanent residents 18 and
older.

Economy

GDP (1993): \$111.8 billion.

GDP growth rate (1993): 1.1%.

GDP per capita (1993): \$2,815.

Unemployment (1993): 46% (is
heaviest among blacks).

Natural resources: Almost all essential
commodities, except petroleum and bauxite.

Manufacturing (1993): About 25% of GDP.

A world leader in the areas of railway
rolling stock, synthetic fuels, and mining
equipment and machinery.

Industry: *Types*—minerals, auto- mobiles
fabricated material, machinery, textiles,
chemicals, fertilizer.

Trade: *Exports* (1993)—\$6.7 billion: gold,
other minerals and metals, agricultural
products. *Major markets*—U.S., Germany,
Japan, United Kingdom, other Sub-Saharan
African countries. *Imports* (1993)—\$5.2
billion: machinery, mining equipment,
transportation equipment, automobiles,
computers, aircraft parts, rice, and office
machinery parts. *Major suppliers*—U.S.,
Germany, Japan, United Kingdom.

Finance and business services (1993):
About 16% of GDP. **Mining (1993):** 10%
of GDP; world's largest producer and
exporter of gold; also significant coal
production.

Official exchange rate (1993 avg.):

Financial rand 4.30 rand=U.S.\$1;
commercial rand 3.2 rand=U.S.\$1. ■



OPLE

Until 1991, South African law divided the population into four major racial categories: Africans (black), whites, coloreds, and Asians. Although this law has been abolished, many South Africans still view themselves and each other according to these categories. Africans comprise about 75% of the population and are divided into a number of different ethnic groups. Whites comprise about 14% of the population. They are primarily descendants of Dutch, French, English, and German settlers who began arriving at the Cape in the late 17th century.

Coloreds are mixed race people, primarily descending from the earliest settlers and the indigenous peoples. They comprise about 9% of the total population. Asians descend from Indian workers brought to South Africa in the mid-19th century to work on the sugar estates in Natal. They constitute about 2% of the population and are concentrated in the Kwazulu-Natal Province. Education is in a state of

Under the apartheid system, schools were segregated and the quantity and quality of education varied significantly across racial groups. Although the laws governing this segregation have been abolished, the long and arduous process of restructuring the country's educational system is just beginning. The challenge is to create a single nondiscriminatory, nonracial system which offers the same standards of education to all people.

HISTORY

People have inhabited Southern Africa for thousands of years. Members of the Khoisan language groups are the oldest surviving inhabitants of the land; however, only a few are left in South Africa today, and they are located in the western sections. Most of today's black South Africans belong to the Bantu language group, which migrated south from central Africa, settling in the Transvaal region sometime before AD 100. The Nguni, ancestors of the Zulu and Xhosa, occupied most of the eastern coast by 1500.

The Portuguese were the first Europeans to reach the Cape of Good Hope, arriving in 1488. However, permanent white settlement did not begin until 1652, when the Dutch East India Company established a provisioning station on the Cape. In subsequent decades, French Huguenot refugees, the Dutch, and Germans began to settle in the Cape. Collectively, they form the Afrikaner segment of today's population.

The establishment of these settlements had far-reaching social and political effects on the groups already settled in the area, leading to upheaval in these societies and the subjugation of their people. By 1779, European settlements extended throughout the southern part of the Cape and east toward the Great Fish River. It was here that Dutch authorities and the Xhosa fought the first frontier war.

The British gained control of the Cape of Good Hope at the end of the 18th century. Subsequent British settlement and rule marked the beginning of a long conflict between the Afrikaners and the English. Beginning in 1836, partly to escape British rule and cultural hegemony and partly out of resentment at the recent abolition of slavery, many Afrikaner farmers (Boers) undertook a northern migration which became known as the "Great Trek." This movement brought them into contact and conflict with African groups in the area, the most formidable of which were the Zulus. Under their powerful leader, Shaka (1787-1828), the Zulus conquered most of the territory between the Drakensburg Mountains and the sea (now Kwazulu-Natal). In 1828, Shaka was assassinated and replaced by his half-brother Dingane. In 1838, Dingane was defeated and deported by the Voortrekkers (people of the great trek) at the battle of Blood River. The Zulus, nonetheless, remained a potent force, defeating the British in the historic battle of Isandhlwana before themselves being finally conquered in 1879. In 1852 and 1854, the independent Boer Republics of the Transvaal and Orange Free State were created. Relations between the republics and the British Government were strained. The discovery of diamonds at Kimberley in 1870 and the discovery of large gold deposits in the Witwatersrand region of the Transvaal

in 1886 caused an influx of European (mainly British) immigration and investment. Many blacks also moved into the area to work in the mines. The construction by mine owners of hostels to house and control their workers set patterns that later extended throughout the region. Boer reactions to this influx and British political intrigues led to the Anglo-Boer Wars of 1880-81 and 1899-1902. British forces prevailed in the conflict and the republics were incorporated into the British Empire. In May 1910, the two republics and the British colonies of the Cape and Natal formed the Union of South Africa, a self-governing dominion of the British Empire. The Union's constitution kept all political power in the hands of whites.

In 1912, the South Africa Native National Congress was formed in Bloemfontein and eventually became known as the African National Congress (ANC). Its goals were the elimination of restrictions based on color and the enfranchisement of and parliamentary representation for blacks. Despite these efforts, the government continued to pass laws limiting the rights and freedoms of blacks. In 1948, the National Party (NP) won the all-white elections and began passing legislation codifying and enforcing an even stricter policy of white domination and racial separation known as "apartheid" (separateness).

In the early 1960s, following a protest in Sharpsville in which 69 protestors were killed by police and 180 injured, the ANC and Pan-African Congress (PAC) were banned. Nelson Mandela and many other anti-apartheid leaders were convicted and imprisoned on charges of treason. The ANC and PAC were forced underground and fought apartheid through guerilla warfare and sabotage. In May 1961, South Africa relinquished its dominion status and declared itself a republic. Later that year, it withdrew from the Commonwealth, in part because of international protests against apartheid.

In 1984, a new constitution came into effect in which whites allowed coloreds and Asians a limited role in the national government and control over their own affairs in certain areas. Ultimately, however, all power re-

nained in white hands. Blacks remained effectively disenfranchised. Popular uprisings in black and colored townships in 1976 and 1985 helped to convince some NP members of the need for change. Secret discussions between those members and Nelson Mandela began in 1986. In February 1990, State President F.W. de Klerk—who had come to power in September 1989—announced the unbanning of the ANC, the PAC, and all other anti-apartheid groups. Two weeks later Nelson Mandela was released from prison. In 1991, the Group Areas Act, Land Acts, and the Population Registration Act—the last of the so-called “pillars of apartheid”—were abolished. A long series of negotiations ensued, resulting in a new constitution promulgated into law in December 1993. The country’s first nonracial elections were held on April 26-29, 1994, resulting in the installation of Nelson Mandela as President on May 10, 1994.

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

South Africa is under a transitional constitution until 1999. The constitution provides for some executive power-sharing among political parties based on the proportion of the vote they received in the April 1994 elections. Under the current constitution, there is a bicameral Parliament, a president, and an independent judiciary.

The Parliament consists of two houses—the National Assembly and the Senate—which are responsible for drafting the laws of the republic. Under the current constitution the Parliament, when seated in joint session, is called the Constitutional Assembly. This Assembly is required, by April 1996, to draft and approve a new constitution which is consistent with 34 constitutional principles. If this fails, it will be dissolved and new elections held. If successful, it will remain in office until 1999, when new elections, under the new constitution, will be held.

The National Assembly is comprised of 400 members elected by a system of “list proportional representation.” Each of the 19 parties that appeared on the ballot submitted a rank-ordered list of candidates. The

voters then cast their ballots for one party. Seats in the Assembly were allocated based on the percentage of votes each party received. In the 1994 elections, the ANC gained 252 seats in the Assembly, the NP 82, the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) 43, the Vyheidsfront/Freedom Front (FF) 9, the Democratic Party (DP) 7, the PAC 5, and the African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) 2. The Assembly also has specific control over bills relating to monetary matters.

The Senate consists of 90 members, 10 from each of the nine provinces created under the new constitution. Voters received a separate ballot to elect provincial legislators, again utilizing the list proportional representation system. Each of the Provincial Legislatures then chose the 10 senators based on the distribution of seats among the competing parties. The Senate has co-equal legislative powers with the National Assembly, except for monetary bills. However, it is specifically responsible for those laws which deal with the powers of the provinces.

The president is the executive head of state. Following the April 1994 elections, the National Assembly elected Nelson Mandela President. In addition, both the largest and second-largest parties—the ANC and NP—chose one deputy president each. The president’s responsibilities include assigning cabinet portfolios, signing bills into law, and serving as commander-in-chief of the military. The president must work closely with the executive deputy presidents and the cabinet. There are 27 seats on the cabinet; any party holding at least 20 in the Assembly is entitled to a proportionate share of cabinet seats.

The third arm of the central government is an independent judiciary. This judiciary is characterized by a Supreme Court that consists of two sections—the Appellate Division and the Constitutional Court.

The Appellate Division (Court of Appeals) consists of the Supreme Court in Bloemfontein and nine regional Supreme Courts. The Supreme Courts hear cases involving serious crimes, including capital offenses. There are a series of magisterial courts that rule on lesser crimes. The jury system was abolished in 1969 and, as a result, the presiding judge or magistrate deter-

mines guilt or innocence. The new constitution establishes a Constitutional Court with interpreting, defending, and enforcing the constitution. The court will consist of a president and 10 judges and will have the power to overturn any law or executive act that it deems unconstitutional. Chapter three of the constitution delineates over 25 fundamental rights of a South African citizen which the court is tasked with protecting. The Constitutional Court must rule on whether the constitution adopted by the Constitutional Assembly or any of the provinces are consistent with the current constitution’s constitutional principles.

Challenges Ahead

Some of the challenges facing the Government of South Africa include raising the living standards of the majority of the population and restructuring the systems of government, education, and security forces. Beginning in May 1994, the government embarked on the Reconstruction and Development Program to begin addressing the inequities of apartheid.

Prior to April 27, 1994, South Africa was divided into four provinces and 10 black “homelands,” four of which were considered independent by the South African Government. The new constitution abolished these distinctions and replaced the system with nine provinces. Each province has an elected legislature and chief executive—the provincial premier. While appearing to be a quasi-federal system, the nature of the relationship between the central and provincial governments has yet to be determined. During the apartheid era, the armed wings of the ANC and PAC waged an armed struggle against the regime. The new government is now in the process of integrating these two forces and those of the now-defunct homelands into a single national defense force.

Human Rights

The new constitution grants more than 25 inalienable and fundamental rights to all South Africans. These rights include universal suffrage; equal protection under the law; and freedom of assembly, movement, religion, and

pression. The constitution also includes the right to a fair and public trial and freedom from political or extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrest, or detention. This constitution is the first in South Africa to guarantee these rights to all people, regardless of race or color.

In the final years of apartheid, levels of political violence were extremely high in South Africa. The Human Rights Commission (HRC) reported that from July 1990 to March 1994, 13,464 people died in political violence. Of that number, 4,139 died between July 1993 and March 1994. The often violent confrontations between supporters of the ANC and IFP and the apparent random violence by individuals or groups opposed to South Africa's transition to democracy were thought to be major causes of this violence.

In most parts of the country, political violence dropped significantly following the April elections. This is attributed, in part, to the newfound freedom to air and address political grievances. However, incidents of political violence remain high in Kwazulu/Natal Province and in certain areas around Johannesburg.

In November 1993, the multi-party negotiating council agreed to repeal those sections of the Public Safety Act and the Internal Security Act which detained individuals without charging them with a crime. The Human Rights Committee of South Africa reports that in the first half of 1994, 270 detentions without trial were recorded. However, as of late June 1994, no one was being held.

Principal Government Officials

State President—Nelson Mandela (ANC)

First Executive Deputy President—Thabo Mbeki (ANC)

Second Executive Deputy President—Frederik W. de Klerk (NP)

Ministers

Justice—Dullah Omar (ANC)

Defense—Joe Modise (ANC)

Home Affairs and Security—Sydney Mufamadi (ANC)

Education—Sibusiso Bengu (ANC)

Trade, Industry and Tourism—Trevor Manuel (ANC)

Foreign Affairs—Alfred Nzo (ANC)

Labor—Tito Mboweni (ANC)

Posts, Telecommunication and

Broadcasting—Pallo Jordan (ANC)

Health—Nkosazana Dlamini (ANC)

Transport—Mac Maharaj (ANC)

Provincial Affairs and Constitutional

Development—Roelf Meyer (NP)

Land Affairs—Derek Hanekom (ANC)

Public Enterprises—Stella Sigcau (ANC)

Public Service and Administration—Zola Skweyiya (ANC)

Housing—Joe Slovo (ANC)

Public Works—Jeff Radebe (ANC)

Correctional Services—Sipho Mzimela (IFP)

Finance—Chris Liebenberg (no party affiliation)

Agriculture—Kraai Van Niekerk (NP)

Sports and Recreation—Steve Tshwete (ANC)

Home Affairs—Mangosuthu Buthelezi (IFP)

Water Affairs and Forestry—Kader Asmal (ANC)

Environmental Affairs—Dawie de Villiers (NP)

Mineral and Energy Affairs—Roelf "Pik" Botha (NP)

Welfare and Population Development—Abe Williams (NP)

Arts, Culture, Science and Technology—Ben Ngubane (IFP)

Minister Without Portfolio—Jay Naidoo (ANC)

The Republic of South Africa maintains an embassy in the United States at 3051 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008; tel. (202) 232-4400.

ECONOMY

South Africa has a broad-based, industrialized economy that paradoxically exhibits most of the characteristics associated with developing economies: a division of labor between formal and informal sectors, uneven distribution of wealth and income, a dependency on commodity exports, and a legacy of government intervention.

The formal sector, based on mining and manufacturing, is well developed. A smaller, but important, agricultural and service sector exists. Despite a

strong private sector, there has been substantial government intervention in the economy. There also are a number of large government-owned corporations.

Economic policy has concentrated on the formal sector, but since the mid-1980s, the policy has sought to develop the informal sector, focusing on education and training, job creation, and small business assistance. The transition to a democratic, non-racial government, begun in early 1990, stimulated a debate on future economic policies to achieve sustained economic growth, redress the socioeconomic disparities created by apartheid, and improve the standard of living for the majority of the population.

The government is pursuing market-based policies, with the private sector as generator of wealth and the government actively addressing the inequities in health, education, housing, and social services. It has embarked on a five-year, \$10.5 billion Reconstruction and Development Program which would implement programs to reduce unemployment, provide free medical care to pregnant mothers and children under age 6, electrify many homes in townships, and build 1 million new homes. To accomplish its goals without undermining business confidence, the government's first-year budget calls for continued fiscal discipline and strict monetary controls. South Africa aims to establish and maintain a pro-business environment and is encouraging both foreign and domestic investment.

Financial Policy

South Africa has a sophisticated financial structure with a large and effective stock exchange. The South Africa Reserve Bank performs all central banking functions. It is independent but, in practice, works closely with the Department of finance to formulate and implement government policy.

The Exchange Control Department of the bank administers foreign exchange control regulations. Exchange controls apply mainly to South African residents, but foreign investors are affected by the dual-exchange rate system for commercial

and financial rand. All foreign investment must be completed in financial rand (finrand) currency.

The finrand is used for investment and disinvestment purposes such as investing in South African securities and specified unit trusts, purchase of shares in new and existing companies, and the purchase of commercial property. The commercial rand is used for all other business transactions in South Africa. Although assets must be purchased in finrand, all dividends, interest, and income are freely remitted through the commercial rand.

Although there was press speculation that the finrand would be abolished and a unitary system adopted, government and bank officials set certain conditions for abolition of the dual-currency system, stating that the system would remain in effect until the conditions were met.

Trade and Investment

South Africa has rich mineral resources; the only major mineral products not found in South Africa are petroleum and bauxite. It is the world's largest producer and exporter of gold and also exports a significant amount of coal. The value-added processing of minerals to produce ferroalloys, stainless steels, and similar products is a major industry and an important potential growth area. The country's diverse manufacturing industry is a world leader in several specialized sectors, including railway rolling stock, synthetic fuels, and mining equipment and machinery.

Agriculture accounts for about 6% of the gross domestic product, including citrus fruits, corn, dairy products, sugarcane, tobacco, wine, and wool. However, because of inadequate and erratic rainfall, only about 15% of the land is suitable for arable farming. South Africa has many developed irrigation schemes and generally is a net exporter of food.

The transportation infrastructure is well developed, supporting both domestic and regional needs. The telecommunications and electrical infrastructure provide "first-world" class service to white urban areas.

The economy is recovering from a five-year recession primarily due to

significant gains in the agricultural sector. South Africa's economic future looks hopeful, with GDP expected to increase and the financial rand expected to depreciate against the dollar. However, several factors could alter these forecasts, including economic policies of the new government, future commodity prices, and the duration of the rebound in the global economy.

Exports and imports account for more than 38% of the GDP. With the lifting of sanctions in 1993, the United States regained its position as South Africa's principal trading partner. South Africa is the largest export market for U.S. goods and services in Sub-Saharan Africa. In 1993, U.S. exports to South Africa totaled \$2.4 billion, representing about 14% of South Africa's total imports. Other major trading partners are Germany, Japan, and the United Kingdom. Trade with other Sub-Saharan African countries, which represents a considerable portion of South Africa's trade, has continued to increase substantially despite the sanctions era.

South Africa's protective import policies present barriers to foreign goods. Importers must apply for import permits for goods. Tariff rates range from 5% to 50%, with luxury goods as high as 60% and automobiles at 100%. Any South African producer may petition for tariff protection; approval is more likely where the producer has a major share of the domestic market and can show that foreign competition is eroding the company's market dominance. In 1993, the South Africans submitted a Uruguay Round offer to rationalize their tariff structure and to lower existing tariffs that the United States has agreed to accept. In the short to medium term, there may be continuing market access problems with some products, but the overall trend should be toward trade liberalization.

Foreign investors generally receive national treatment, but they are subject to certain lending limits. Local content rules apply in certain industries. In 1990, South Africa eliminated legal restrictions against foreign-owned financial institutions,

which may now establish subsidiaries or branches or acquire domestic banks.

The Import-Export Bank may provide assistance for U.S. exports to South Africa. Such assistance can help open many markets in housing, education, and health care to American exporters and provide a trade promotion tool of the type already available to firms from most of South Africa's other major trading partners. In November 1993, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation signed a bilateral investment encouragement agreement with South Africa. It can now assist U.S. investors in that market with services such as political risk insurance and identification of investment opportunities. The Trade and Development Program also is actively exploring opportunities to fund feasibility studies.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

South African forces fought on the Allied side in World Wars I and II and participated in the post-war UN force in Korea. South Africa was a founding member of the League of Nations and in 1927 established a Department of External Affairs with diplomatic missions in the main West European countries and in the United States. At the founding of the League of Nations, South Africa was given the mandate to govern South-West Africa, now Namibia, which had been a German colony before World War I. In 1990, South Africa granted independence to Namibia with the exception of the enclave of Walvis Bay, which was reintegrated into Namibia in March 1994. After South Africa held its first non-racial election in April 1994, most sanctions imposed by the international community were lifted. On June 1, 1994, South Africa rejoined the Commonwealth, and on June 23, 1994, its credentials to the UN General Assembly were accepted. South Africa also joined the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and is beginning to play a leading role. Following the elections, many countries established diplomatic missions in South Africa. It now enjoys diplomatic relations with more than 80% of UN member states. South Africa's principal foreign policy objective is to develop good relations with all countries, especially its

ghbors. In an effort to focus on domestic problems, South Africa is carefully considering to what degree it will participate in world affairs.

U.S.-SOUTH AFRICAN RELATIONS

The United States has maintained an official presence in South Africa since 1799, when an American consulate was opened in Cape Town. The U.S. Embassy is located in Pretoria and consulates general are in Johannesburg, Durban, and Cape Town. Americans and South African also have many non-governmental ties; for example, black and white American missionaries have a long history of activity in South Africa.

From the 1970s through the early 1990s, U.S.-South African relations were severely affected by South Africa's racial policies. However, since the establishment of the Government of National Unity in May 1994, the United States has enjoyed an excellent bilateral relationship with South Africa. In May 1994, the United States committed to South Africa almost \$1 billion in aid to be distributed over three years. The U.S. aid program

Travel Notes

Customs: A passport valid for at least six months is required, but a visa is not required for regular passport holders on bona fide holiday, business visits, or in transit. However, visas are required for extended stays, employment, study, and diplomatic and official passport holders. Evidence of a yellow fever vaccination is necessary if arriving from an infected area.

Health: The standard of community health is high, and city water is potable. Medical facilities, good in urban areas and in the vicinity of game parks and beaches, may be limited elsewhere. Avoid swimming in fresh water, as it may be infested with disease-causing organisms.

Telecommunications: Calls to the U.S. can be dialed directly, and connections are usually good. South Africa is six hours ahead of eastern standard time.

Transportation: South Africa has a modern transportation network. □

is focusing on responding to specific requests from South African and non-governmental organizations.

Principal U.S. Officials

Ambassador—Princeton Lyman
Deputy Chief of Mission and Minister-Counselor—Priscilla Clapp
Economic Counselor—Michael Cleverley
Political Counselor—John Campbell
Administrative Counselor—John Collins
Public Affairs Officer—John Burns
Defense Attache—Kim Henningsen
USAID Director—Leslie "Cap" Dean
Agricultural Attache—James Benson
Consul General, Cape Town—Bismark Myrick
Consul General, Durban—Pamela Bridgewater
Consul General, Johannesburg—Alan McKee ■

Published by the U.S. Department of State
Bureau of Public Affairs • Office of Public
Communication • Washington, DC
Managing Editor: Peter A. Knecht

November 1994 • Department of State Publication 8021 • Background Notes Series • This material is in the public domain and may be reprinted without permission; citation of this source is appreciated.

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents,
U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington,
DC 20402

South Africa: U.S.-South Africa Relations

The United States and South Africa both have diverse and open societies, an attachment to democratic principles, and a shared vision of a peaceful and prospering international community. Since apartheid ended, we have moved quickly, and with considerable success, to put in place an entirely new architecture to our relationship, one defined between two sophisticated, independent, democratic partners. Sound working relationships at the senior-most levels of government, as well as burgeoning government, business, and personal links between our two countries, underscore the rapidity with which U.S.-South African relations have grown in less than three years.

Within this excellent relationship, there are some frictions. South Africa's leaders realize the only way to increase jobs, housing, and education for the masses is to foster a climate which supports private enterprise and attracts foreign investment. Yet some in South Africa retain a wariness and skepticism of the United States' immense economic and political power and its evolving foreign policy interests in Africa. Additionally, Afrikaner technocrats continue to dominate the civil service, and a number of them still harbor resentment over U.S. policy toward the former regime. South Africa's leaders also retain close ties to many pariah states, including Libya, Iran and Cuban, which aided the liberation movement during the apartheid era. These relations continue to be of concern to U.S. policymakers, especially in the area of potential weapons sales and technology transfers.

The establishment of the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission (BNC) in 1994 and a number of high-level visits by U.S. Government officials have underscored the strong bonds between the two countries. South Africa continues to regard official and private sector support from the United States as crucial to the success of its efforts to redress the socioeconomic legacy of apartheid. Accordingly, South African expectations of U.S. support are high. With aid levels set to zero out by the year 2005, the U.S. and South Africa must solidify a friendship not defined by developmental aid.

The BNC has encouraged both governments to give high-level attention to critical trade, development and commercial issues and has provided concrete demonstration of the breadth and depth of the U.S. commitment to Africa's most advanced economic power. Such widespread engagement will continue to be crucial to the relationship as the need to replace conventional aid programs increases.

South Africa: Political Overview

Almost three years into the rule of the Government of National Unity, euphoria over democracy and liberation has subsided faster than the new government has been able to replace it with delivery of jobs, housing, and education. Unfulfilled expectations are not yet a major problem but could become so in the near future. Nelson Mandela's place in history is assured. He is increasingly revered as a living legend by all elements of South African society. Until Mandela retires at the end of his term, there will be no meaningful challenge to the political status quo. Mandela have begun paving the way for a coordinated and gradual transfer of power, and will not stand for re-election as ANC president at the next party congress in December 1997. While clearly grooming Thabo Mbeki to be his successor, he stresses that the selection of the next president will be through a democratic process.

Domestically, three major political issues have taken positive turns during the past year. First, in KwaZulu/Natal Province, factional violence between the ANC and Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party, which controls the provincial government, has subsided remarkably since last June's local elections were carried out peacefully and fairly.

Second, South Africa's permanent constitution was adopted in December, with most opposition parties (including the National Party) joining with the ANC to provide an overwhelming margin of Parliamentary support. The widespread, multilateral support for the constitution bodes well for the preservation of democracy.

Finally, South Africa is weathering well the stress of exposing and resolving the cases of persons who perpetrated atrocities in an effort either to defend the apartheid government or to destroy it. The independent Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which the United States has supported with a grant, has demonstrated fairness and good judgment.

A somewhat troubling feature within the ANC is its tendency to deal harshly with those within its own ranks who challenge the party's authority. The central ANC authority puts a premium on unwavering party loyalty. The ANC controls seven of nine provincial councils and has the authority as the majority party in these regions to appoint provincial premiers. Thus, the ANC was legally able to replace three provincial premiers in recent months, when their actions reflected badly on the ANC, without ever calling an election.

South Africa: Economic Overview

The United States and South Africa have made great progress in establishing a normal bilateral trade relationship, with annual trade of approximately \$5 billion. Our overall trade policy dialogue is frank and has focused on resolving issues of mutual concern. In the past twelve months, we have concluded a new bilateral tax treaty and a civil aviation treaty. During the February 1997 Binational Commission meetings in Cape Town, South African Government (SAG) officials expressed interest in commencing Bilateral Investment Treaty negotiations.

South Africa has been increasingly responsive to U.S. concerns on a variety of bilateral and multilateral trade issues including Intellectual Property Rights protection, competition policy, and telecommunications policy. The SAG's February 1997 offer during the World Trade Organization telecom negotiations to conditionally open telecommunications markets created an impetus for other emerging markets to follow suit. At home, South Africa is privatizing Telkom, the telecommunications parastatal. In early March, the SAG awarded an approximately 30% strategic equity partnership, worth \$1.5 billion, in Telkom to a U.S.-Malaysian consortium led by Southwestern Bell. Many firms view this as positive indication of South African interest in U.S. investment, and believe it will facilitate related investments in South Africa and the region.

The direction of economic policy has become one of the most divisive issues for ANC leadership. The SAG wants to move away from its heavily statist inheritance, show positive economic results quickly, and deliver long-awaited social services. In June 1996, the SAG unveiled a forward-looking, market-driven economic plan, "Growth, Employment and Redistribution: A Macroeconomic Strategy" (GEAR). The GEAR policy attempts to balance labor and business interests. While business interests supported the policy, labor leaders charged that the policy leaned too heavily in favor of business, and complained that tariff cuts and increased labor market flexibility would cost jobs in vulnerable industries and erode labor rights.

The GEAR calls for a reduction of tariffs and export subsidies, deficit reduction, budget reform, privatization of state assets, labor market flexibility, tax incentives for investors, and gradual exchange control relaxation. The plan aims for 6 percent economic growth and creation of 400,000 new jobs annually by the year 2000. (South Africa's 1996 GDP growth was 3 percent, and unemployment is estimated to be 35%.)

In late 1996, financial analysts reported that South Africa's economic growth rate was slowing. Since that time, trade statistics and other economic indicators have been positive, and analysts are now adopting a cautiously optimistic tone. Government borrowing has dropped, and it appears the SAG will meet its GEAR target of reducing the fiscal deficit to 5.1% of GDP this year. (It was close to 8% in 1992.) Inflation remained below 10%, and a three-year upward trend in domestic investment has continued.

South Africa: Women's Issues

Since taking office in 1994, the post-apartheid government has made significant progress in raising the status of women. Before 1994, women faced discriminatory laws and regulations in health care, child care, tax legislation, land ownership and crimes of violence. During the 1994 elections, the African National Congress (ANC) pledged that 33 percent of its elected positions in government would go to women. With the ANC dominating the government, the percentage of women in elected office is even greater. On the national level, over a quarter of the seats in the National Parliament are held by women and both the Speaker and Deputy Speaker are women. Four of 26 Ministers are women, as are eight of the deputy minister positions. On the provincial and local levels women are well represented, with one female Provincial Premier (equivalent to a U.S. state governor) and several female mayors.

The South African government has aggressively enacted legislation to benefit women. In 1996, the government established an Office on the Status of Women in the Deputy President's Office to develop strategies for integrating gender concerns in policy and planning. The Commission on Gender Equality Bill, passed by Parliament in June 1996, established a government body to promote gender equality and to advise Parliament on any legislation affecting women. The government has worked hard to implement the goals of the UN Fourth Conference on Women and ratified in 1996 the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

The equality and rights of women are enshrined in the South African constitution. Tax legislation has been passed which removes previous discriminatory regulations against married women. A domestic violence act was passed in 1993 and is being strengthened, following consultations with NGO's and the Department of Justice. The Termination of Pregnancy Act which was passed in February 1997 made legal the provision of abortion services for up to 14 weeks of pregnancy and, for certain cases, up to 24 weeks. Legislation is under consideration to strengthen women's land rights and amendments have been added to a farm workers' rights bill which includes domestic workers.

Despite legal advances and government efforts, discrimination against women remains a serious problem. Girls account for about 50 percent of primary and secondary school populations but their graduation rate is lower than that of boys because of domestic responsibilities, sexual harassment, and pregnancy. More women than men reside in rural areas where illiteracy rates equal 50 percent. Although over 45 percent of university students are women, they lag far behind in the sciences, business and engineering fields. Nearly 40 percent of law students are women, but less than 20 percent of advocates and less than 10 percent of judges are women. Traditional law, especially in the rural areas, continues to confine women and is in direct confrontation with the rights guaranteed women in the South African

constitution. The government has yet to work out the conflict between the two.

Violence toward women is a major problem. Although the absence of comprehensive statistics makes a definitive statement on the prevalence of violence against women difficult, it is generally accepted that it occurs across all socioeconomic and racial groups and is widespread and on the increase. South Africa has one of the highest per capita rates of rape in the world; several recent high-profile rapes have been covered in the international press and have increased pressure for action. The government's domestic violence legislation provides for "one stop shops" for victims of domestic violence or rape. The South African Police Service reportedly proposed the one-stop shop concept for victims of domestic violence. The concept is not finalized and funding sources have not yet been identified. Working with NGO's, the government hopes to create in identified police stations services for reporting domestic violence or rape, an emergency counseling and health center, social assistance for long-term counseling, and possibly a shelter. The one-stop shop concept is being discussed by the coordinating body of the National Crime Prevention Strategy.

On the economic front, women have a lower rate of employment in the formal sector than men. There are few women owners of business and there is only one female head of a major corporation (Transnet). Women earn less than their male counterparts in every sector of the economy, and workplace issues such as sexual harassment and maternity leave are inadequately addressed. Within all race groups, woman-headed households are significantly poorer than the average household. The female labor force remains concentrated in low-paid, poorly organized sectors of the economy, such as clerical, sales, and service sectors, which include domestic services and the informal sector.

Facts About Violence Against Women in South Africa

- Reported cases of child rape have increased from 7,559 in 1994, to 10,037 in 1995, to 13,859 in 1996.
- Child rapes reportedly account for 38% of South Africa's total rape caseload.
- Statistics for the first eight months of 1996 (last available) indicate that South Africa's rate of 141 reported rapes per 100,000 females is almost double the U.S. rate for 1995 (last available) of 72 reported rapes per 100,000 females.
- It has been estimated that only one in every 20 rapes is reported in South Africa. Poor record keeping and bureaucratic disarray in the transition are at least partially to blame.

South Africa: Involvement in UN Fourth
World Conference on Women

Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Minister of Health, led the 46-member South African delegation. There was strong unity among the members and with the other delegates from the southern African region. South Africa received high marks at the conference for its commitment to equality in its new constitution and the visibility of women in public life (e.g., nearly one third of MPs, including the speaker of the Parliament, are women).

South Africa formed part of the African leadership at the conference which focused on the girl child and pushed for the equal right to inherit, regardless of sex. The Beijing Platform contains three such references. South Africa was an active participant during the debate over "sexual orientation," Chapter IV of the Platform. Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and others supported the reference, stating that discrimination on any grounds should be prohibited. The South African delegation made clear that it did not want to be associated with any form of discrimination.

South Africa's commitments at Beijing included:

- * Ratification of the UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).
- * Creation of a national consciousness regarding violence against women.
- * Increasing the provision of shelters for battered women.
- * Improving women's access to land and credit.
- * Helping assure that single mothers have adequate support and that fathers are financially responsible for their children.

The South African Parliament ratified CEDAW and passed the Commission on Gender Equality Act. The Act promotes gender equality and establishes a commission to advise and make recommendations to Parliament on any legislation affecting women. Other steps taken by the government include: (i) the establishment of the Office on the Status of Women in the Deputy President's Office; (ii) the adoption of a new constitution which includes an equality clause that prohibits discrimination on the grounds of gender, sex, pregnancy, marital status and sexual orientation; and, (iii) the official ending of tax discrimination against married women. The government's pledge to establish more centers for battered women, one of the most significant commitments given the high rate of domestic violence in South Africa, has not been fully implemented. By the end of 1996, few centers had been opened and women's advocacy groups have called on the Government to speed implementation of its Beijing pledge.

South Africa: Children's Issues

Young people in South Africa face a wide range of problems, including abandonment, substance abuse, prostitution, domestic and other serious forms of violence, homelessness, and labor exploitation. The constitution stipulates that children have the right "to security, education, basic nutrition, and basic health and social services," and the government remains firm in its commitment to provide these services. While it has made some progress toward developing mechanisms for delivering services, the demand far outstrips available resources.

As a result of the apartheid legacy, South African children have serious problems resulting from poverty and poor living conditions. In 1995, the infant mortality rate averaged 50 deaths per 1,000 live births, but mortalities rates varied by province and race from 3.9-10.9 per 1,000 for whites to 37.2-74.5 for blacks. More than 9 million children, or a quarter of South Africa's population, lived in poor households (below the poverty line). About 96% (8.7 million) of the children living in poor households were black, 3.4% were colored, 0.4% were Indian and 0.5% were white. Of the 8.7 million black children living in poverty, more than 75% lived in rural areas.

A 1994 survey to assess the extent and location of malnutrition among schoolchildren found that, although acute malnutrition was not a major problem, over one million children were either underweight or stunted. The government offers free health care to pregnant women and to children under 6 years of age, and provides nutritious meals for primary school children. Public assistance for primary school nutrition currently reaches approximately 5.5 million children in 15,800 schools, 80 percent of the identified target children. Child care provision is still poor and racially divided; 33 out of 100 white children attend mostly high-quality centers, while only 6 out of 100 black children attend child care centers, which are usually simple backyard arrangements.

Violence against children remains widespread. Crimes committed against children are currently rising at an annual rate of 29%; reported cases have increased 65% between 1993 and 1995. The increase in reported cases can be attributed to the creation of special units to deal with these crimes, a growing emphasis on children's rights, and increased public and media attention to the problem. However, a lack of coordinated and comprehensive strategies to deal with such crimes impedes the delivery of needed services to young victims.

Child prostitution is on the rise, primarily in Cape Town, but it is prevalent in Durban and Johannesburg as well. An increase in the number of children living on the streets has contributed to a rise in child prostitution. Female genital mutilation is traditionally practiced in some remote areas, although it is not thought to be widespread. Traditional circumcision of teenage boys results in the hospitalization, mutilation, or even death of several youths each year.

South Africa: Education

Education in South Africa was severely warped by apartheid policies. Separate education systems for each race and each region resulted in 19 Ministries of Education and huge disparities in resources and services. The quality of education was high for the privileged white 20% of the population and very poor for the disadvantaged majority. In 1990-91, for example, per student spending for white students was 4-6 times greater than for black students. Reconstruction and development efforts focus on attaining equality of educational resources and opportunities, but will take decades to achieve. Still, inequities persist in spending per pupil. The challenge is to maintain and enhance the quality developed for privileged communities, while expanding education services to all.

The 19 ministries have been reorganized into one National Ministry of Education and new provincial departments of education in the nine provinces are being created. The new provincial administrations are responsible for the delivery of education services. Their handling of the daunting task of getting organized, assessing and allocating teaching and other resources, registering students and starting classes has been a mixed success.

At the school level, there are serious inequalities in education resources among ethnic groups, and the extensive efforts to mitigate the disparities will take some time. The education budget is being revised to equalize funding distributions, but the inequities built up under apartheid are enormous. Disadvantaged communities lack school rooms and qualified teachers at all levels of education. Policy reforms focus on equalizing the student/teacher ratios in all communities, and government programs are being developed to educate new teachers and provide in-service training for current teachers and administrators. New curricula are also being developed to eliminate past apartheid biases and incorporate modern content and teaching practices.

In higher education, the problems are similar to those in the rest of the system. South Africa's 15 historically disadvantaged institutions share many problems the historically black colleges and universities in the U.S. once had. They suffer from inadequate physical facilities and overcrowding, insufficient funding, and under-qualified teaching and administrative staff. They are the focal point for large numbers of under-prepared students who are the products of a flawed primary and secondary education system.

The "advantaged" higher education institutions which were largely (although not exclusively) segregated under apartheid are now integrating. Most have 50% or more of their enrollment from black students, but have the resources to provide tutorial or bridging programs.

In response to President Mandela's request for teacher training assistance, President Clinton agreed to provide \$19 million through USAID for the Ministry of Education. USAID and USIA programs, covering pre-school through university support, make the United States the largest bilateral donor in education.

South Africa: Population and Family Planning

Estimates put the population of South Africa between 40 and 43.5 million in 1995. UN projections indicate that the population may increase to 46.3 million by the year 2000, and to 56.4 million by the year 2010. At the current rate of growth the population will double in the next 32 years.

The South African Government (SAG) is in the process of developing the National Population Policy, a comprehensive policy to reduce past inequities while enhancing the quality of life of all South Africans. Past population policies and programs, especially with regard to fertility, mortality and migration, were anchored in apartheid ideology. They focused on the forced and/or restricted movement and resettlement of South Africans, especially blacks. The apartheid government tried to reduce population growth by reducing fertility through the provision of contraceptive services, often by coercive means, and by restricting the access of blacks to educational and employment opportunities.

South Africa's current fertility and population growth rates are high, but are on the decline. And while overall mortality rates are low, they are unusually high for infants and mothers. South Africa's age structure is relatively young, with over a third of the population under the age of 15. High unemployment in neighboring countries and porous borders have resulted in a large influx of illegal immigrants. Infrastructure and services in urban areas are overburdened by a crush of job seekers, while there is an unusually high rural population in areas without a productive base, infrastructure or services.

The quality and effectiveness of reproductive health services are poorest for South Africa's historically disadvantaged population. At least 30 percent of women in rural areas give birth at home, and a significant proportion of these births are unassisted by trained persons. Evidence indicates that illegal abortions are a significant contributor to high maternal mortality rates. While the passage of the Termination of Pregnancy Bill in February 1997 has made most abortions legal, the capacity of the country to provide safe abortions is woefully inadequate. In addition, two of the main contributors of morbidity and mortality among adolescents are pregnancy and sexually-transmitted diseases, yet health programs specifically targeting youth are virtually non-existent.

It is generally accepted that contraceptive usage among married women is at least 60 percent. While women in South Africa bear an average of 4.3 children, surveys show that this figure is far higher than women's preferred family size. This is likely due to an unmet need for contraceptive services and the necessity for the SAG to develop maternal and child health care and women's services, and to provide for more accessible family planning services.

South Africa: Health Care Issues

The major health care challenge for the new South Africa is to provide equity in basic health care to all South Africans to rectify the inequities in health services provision created and supported by apartheid. South Africa has a population of over 40 million people, growing at a rate of 2.08%, 73% of whom are women and children. The majority of South Africa's people -- the historically disadvantaged population -- have inadequate access to basic services, including health, clean water and basic sanitation. An estimated 35 to 55 percent live in poverty; most are concentrated in rural areas.

South Africa's apartheid public health system consisted of a three-tier, 14-ministry "system" designed to serve the different population groups separately. Health care resource allocations neglected large proportions of the black and rural populations, and favored high-technology, curative health care for the minority white population. The result was an inequitable system, with the majority of South Africans deprived of basic primary health care. Other legacies of the apartheid health care system include centralized health planning and management, fragmented information systems, and ineffective human resource development.

The health and survival statistics for white children in South Africa differ greatly for their black and colored counterparts. The infant mortality rate for black South African children is nearly 10 times higher than the national rate of 48 per 1,000. At birth, the life expectancy of black and colored children is 60 years, 10 years less than white children. While diarrheal disease is the major cause of death among 1-4 year old black and colored children, it accounts for only four percent of deaths of white children. In 1990, 74,283 cases of tuberculosis were identified for children ages 1-4; of these, black and colored children accounted for 98 percent. Early weaning of babies and low birth weight are both serious child survival problems.

In the past decade, the HIV epidemic has continued to progress rapidly, with the infection rate doubling every 13-15 months. Approximately 2 million South Africans are currently infected with HIV. The current number of AIDS cases is estimated at 43,000, of whom 10,000 are children. It is projected that 8 million South Africans will be infected by the year 2000. By the year 2010 about 25 percent of all economically active people could be HIV positive, resulting in decreases in life expectancy by approximately 15 years. HIV/AIDS in South Africa is spread primarily through heterosexual contact. The housing of large populations of young men in urban hostels far from their families exacerbates this trend through contacts with sex workers and multiple partners. The interrelationship between HIV/AIDS and sexually-transmitted diseases (STDs) has been well-documented

internationally, and the aggressiveness of the African HIV epidemic has apparently been due largely to the high prevalence of STDs. In South Africa, STDs have been a neglected area of health care. Furthermore, according to calculations from the national Department of Health, approximately one out of every twelve people in South Africa will be infected with at least one STD within the next year.

South Africa: Human Rights

South Africa's governing institutions and civil society continue to consolidate the democratic transformation initiated by the historic 1994 national elections. The government generally respects the human rights of its citizens. The country's laws and newly independent judiciary protect these rights, and provide an effective means of dealing with instances of individual abuses.

The South African Police Service has primary responsibility for internal security. It is undergoing major restructuring and transformation from a primarily public order security force largely dedicated to enforcing apartheid laws to a more accountable, community service-oriented police force. Resignations and retirements of senior police officials have permitted the infusion of new personnel at senior levels; these appointments have furthered affirmative action within the police.

Civilian authorities maintain effective control of the security forces. However, some members of these forces have committed human rights abuses, including excessive use of force during arrest, torture, and other physical abuse. Deaths in police custody remain a problem. The government has taken action to investigate and punish some of those involved. Prison conditions meet minimum international standards, and the government permits independent monitoring of prisons, including visits by human rights organizations.

Although there are still many political and extrajudicial killings, political violence has continued to decrease, not only countrywide but in the province of KwaZulu Natal, where the most political violence has taken place. In Cape Town, vigilante justice and mob justice have been problems, particularly under the organization PAGAD, People Against Gangsterism and Drugs, a community-based largely Islamic organization calling for stronger action by the Government. The Government and the U.S. have condemned PAGAD's activities of intimidation and violence. Violence against women and children throughout South Africa remains a serious problem.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission, created to investigate apartheid-era human rights abuses, compensate victims, and grant amnesty for full disclosure of politically-motivated crimes, began intensive rounds of hearings in April 1996, which continue. The government-created Human Rights Commission is tasked with promoting the observance of fundamental human rights at all levels of government and throughout the general population. It also has the power to conduct investigations, issue subpoenas, and hear testimony under oath.

The constitution prohibits discrimination on the grounds of race, gender, ethnic or social origin, color, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, conscience, belief, culture, language, sex, pregnancy, marital status, or birth. Legal recourse is available to those who believe they have been discriminated

against. Parliament continues to repeal and revise discriminatory legislation. Such reform actions include passage of the divorce amendment bill and the interim protection of informal land rights act.

South Africa: Environment

The environmental debate in South Africa combines the problems and concerns of both a wealthy, industrialized country and a poor, developing one. The advent of democracy has accelerated the development of a broad-based environmental movement that insists on transparency and citizen participation in governmental decision making.

Since the 1920's, the South African Government (SAG) has been active in the "green" issues of wildlife and habitat conservation. South Africans only recently focused on the "brown" issues of pollution prevention and remedies. This was partly due to a reluctance to address the environmental costs of industrial production, but apartheid-era racism slowed government's reaction to pollution problems which did not generally affect the minority white population.

The ANC government has learned to react quickly when environmental problems arise. Heightened public awareness has focused attention on environmental problems ranging from the illegal release in May 1995 of nuclear waste from a facility near Pretoria to the health problems associated with the continuing discharge of raw sewage in the Eastern Cape Province. In each case the government announced actions it would take once the public complained to the press.

For the majority of citizens, basic sanitation, in particular clean water, is the most immediate environmental problem. The importance of mining and heavy industry to the South African economy means that water and air pollution and solid waste management will continue to pose widespread challenges. Issues related to pesticides and other agricultural pollution in rural areas directly affect half of South Africa's population. Uncontrolled urbanization without sufficient infrastructure and a steady influx of illegal immigrants are also significant environmental concerns.

Despite the increasing environmental awareness in the country, some domestic interests have resisted the SAG's engagement in the international arena. As a result, the ANC Government has been reluctant to embrace actively many international environmental treaties. For example, the SAG has not acceded to UN Fish Stocks Agreement since local coastal communities, most of whom are from historically disadvantaged groups, oppose the agreement because it will exclude them from exploiting resources they have long been denied. While South Africa was signatory to the Convention to Combat Desertification, as well as the Climate Convention, the SAG has yet to ratify either. (South Africa is among the top ten emitters of carbon dioxide worldwide.)

The SAG is also under domestic pressure to reconsider its support of the ban on trade in ivory and elephant products. South Africa's game authorities are grappling with how to manage unnaturally large and destructive herds of elephants. Locals expect to benefit from the operation of game reserves, and increasingly call for a controlled cull of "excess" elephants with the sale of elephant products on the international market.

South Africa: U.S. Assistance

The political situation in apartheid-era South Africa prompted most countries of the world to impose economic sanctions on the government in the mid-1980s. U.S. sanctions were accompanied by an expansion of USAID assistance to non-governmental organizations in South Africa. Our assistance, which was focused on strengthening the capacity of the majority population to eventually assume leadership roles, grew from \$7 million in FY 1985 to \$80 million in FY 1993.

In April 1994, South Africa entered a new stage of nonracial democracy with the election of Nelson Mandela as President. To support that change and help redress the social and economic legacies of apartheid, President Clinton announced a three-year, nearly \$600 million assistance package. This initial assistance package was superseded in 1996 by a new ten-year, \$435 million program.

USAID's strategy for South Africa was developed in close cooperation with the South African Government, civil society, university and private sector communities, and other international donors. USAID's strategy broadly supports the three main objectives of the South African Government's Reconstruction and Development Program: 1) consolidate democracy and reform the civil service; 2) spur economic growth and job creation; 3) meet the needs of the majority population in education, health and housing.

USAID's South Africa program will continue through 2005. The overall goal is "sustainable transformation" -- assisting South Africa to the point where democracy is sufficiently consolidated, and the basic system and policies for social services delivery are in place. This includes the development of management and technical capacity in the majority population, as well as institutional change. This focus is designed to increase the participation and empowerment of the majority population. With USAID assistance scheduled to end in 2005, our bilateral relationship must move steadily onto other terrain. The USAID program is designed to prepare South Africa for this transition.

USAID assistance focuses on six strategic objectives: Democracy and Governance, Education, Health, Economic Policy Capacity, Private Sector Development, and Housing and Urban Services. USAID's program in South Africa features technical assistance and training that will transfer necessary skills to a wide range of South Africans including education and health care professionals, government officials, non-governmental organizations, and small business owners.

USAID's programs also support the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission (BNC), co-chaired by Vice President Gore and Deputy President Mbeki. USAID's Administrator co-chairs the Human Resource Development and Education Committee, one of six BNC committees.

FACT SHEET
U.S. ASSISTANCE TO THE NEW SOUTH AFRICA

USAID Strategic Objectives and Projected Funding Levels
Funding Years: FY 1996 - FY 2003 (program closes in 2005)

1) Democracy and Governance	\$125.1 million
2) Education	\$137.1 million
3) Health	\$ 54.3 million
4) Economic Policy Capacity	\$ 32.3 million
5) Private Sector Development*	\$ 69.0 million
6) Housing and Urban Services	\$ 90.6 million

*includes some SAEDF funds (see below)

GSP: The U.S. grants South Africa Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) access that allows duty free entry for 4,400 products. In 1995, \$357 million worth of South Africa's exports to the U.S. benefited from this concession.

Peace Corps: The first group of 32 Peace Corps volunteers arrived in South Africa in February 1997, and 30 more will follow in October. Volunteers will help to upgrade the teaching skills of classroom teachers, to sharpen school management skills, and to strengthen the links between schools and their communities.

USIA: USIA's total budget for South Africa is approximately \$6.3 million which includes about \$2 million in USIA resources for educational and professional exchanges. USIS in South Africa also administers the \$1.3 million BNC support fund which enables South Africans to participate more fully in the BNC (i.e., funds travel for expert exchanges associated with BNC projects). USIA's program emphasizes conflict resolution, civic education, federalism, economics and rule of law.

Southern Africa Enterprise Development Fund (SAEDF): In October 1994, the \$100 million SAEDF was established at the initiative of the President and the U.S. Congress to expand indigenous business development and ownership through equity investment, loans, loan guarantees and technical assistance. Approximately half of SAEDF resources are targeted at South Africa; the remainder is for other countries in the region.

OPIC: OPIC recently launched a \$75 million equity investment fund, the "Africa Growth Fund II," to provide venture capital for U.S.-South African joint ventures.

Trade Development Administration (TDA): TDA has been active in South Africa's transportation, telecommunications, natural resource, agribusiness and manufacturing sectors. The agency provides feasibility study grants, technical assistance and other support for projects that benefit both South Africa and U.S. exporters.

EXIM: EXIM Bank has extended \$255 million to South Africa, predominantly for the purchase of aircraft. These loans, guarantees, and insurance are all current and being serviced.

South Africa: U.S. Embassy

The United States Embassy is located in Pretoria, South Africa, and is headed by Ambassador James Joseph and Deputy Chief of Mission Robert Pringle. The U.S. Mission is comprised of 203 Americans and 252 South African employees. There are eleven agencies (USIA, USAID, Agriculture, Commerce, DEA, FBI, U.S. Customs, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Defense and Peace Corps in addition to the State Department) represented in the country with the majority assigned to Pretoria. The Commercial Service and a newly-authorized Immigration and Naturalization Service office are located at the Consulates General in Cape Town and Durban. The Embassy is co-located in Cape Town where the Ambassador resides when Parliament is in session. There is also a Consulate General in Johannesburg.

U.S. goals in South Africa include: 1) supporting South Africa's transition to an inclusive, pluralistic, market-oriented democracy, including promotion of a strong civil society; 2) encouraging restructuring towards a sustainable, market-based economy which rectifies the socio-economic legacies of apartheid; 3) promoting broader access to South African markets for U.S. trade and investment; and 4) bringing to fruition initiatives arising out of the Binational Commission (BNC) process. The recent BNC meeting in Cape Town saw the signing of a Fulbright exchange agreement and a tax treaty between South Africa and the United States.

South Africa: Etiquette

Normal American standards of etiquette and dress are applicable in South Africa.

The climate in both Cape Town and the Pretoria/Johannesburg area in March (late summer/early fall in South Africa) can range from cool (chilly in the evenings) to warm (low eighties). Fog and rain are always possible in Cape Town, along with high, gusty winds, so both a raincoat and sweater are recommended.

South Africa: U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission

President Clinton and President Mandela created the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission during Mr. Mandela's October 1994 state visit to Washington, designating Vice President Gore and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki as co-chairs. Formally launched during Deputy President Mbeki's March 1995 visit to Washington, the BNC is modeled after the Gore-Chernomyrdin Binational Commission. It is designed to: 1) revitalize a relationship which had lain largely dormant for nearly two decades; 2) cut bureaucratic "red tape" by focusing high-level attention on problems and opportunities in the bilateral relationship; 3) facilitate cooperation in areas key to South Africa's development; and 4) provide a concrete demonstration of the breadth and depth of the U.S. commitment to South Africa.

The BNC is composed of six committees: Trade and Investment, Agriculture, Human Resource Development and Education, Conservation and Environment, Sustainable Energy, and Science and Technology. Since the initial meeting in March 1995, the BNC has met three times, twice in South Africa (December 1995 and February 1997) and once in Washington (July 1996).

Already a core element of our relationship with South Africa, the BNC has an impressive list of accomplishments to its credit, and Deputy President Mbeki has made it clear that South Africa deeply appreciates the attention the U.S. has bestowed on the BNC. Each of the BNC's six committees has sponsored numerous individual projects intended to support South Africa's transformation to non-racial democracy, spur economic growth and development, and improve the everyday life of average South Africans.

Moreover, the BNC has provided the impetus for more fundamental developments in normalizing the relationship. These include conclusion of a new Civil Aviation Agreement, signature of a Bilateral Tax Treaty, establishment of a U.S.-South African Fulbright Commission, development of a cooperative effort to combat crime and violence in South Africa, and agreement on a framework to resolve the U.S. case against the South African armaments parastatal ARMSCOR.

South Africa: Reconstruction and Development Program

The Reconstruction and Development Program (RDP), the South African Government's (SAG) master plan to redress the inequities created during forty years of apartheid, was the center of the ANC's electoral campaign. The RDP is by definition highly ambitious, and popular expectations run high. The principal goals of the RDP are to provide housing, education, and health care to the previously disadvantaged community in South Africa. Electricity, telephone and sanitation also are considered essential services to be addressed by government policy. To varying degrees, these services are beginning to be provided, albeit slowly in many cases.

In June 1996, the SAG attempted to streamline RDP implementation by transferring most of the "RDP Ministry" operational functions to Deputy President Mbeki's office, and financial controls to the Finance Ministry. Regardless of which ministry is at the helm of the RDP, South Africa's voters will judge the RDP's success on whether it delivers a visible and sustained improvement in living standards for South Africa's black majority.

A certain amount of criticism has been leveled at the government for inattention to RDP goals. Critics argue the SAG's new economic policy, "Growth, Employment and Redistribution: A Macroeconomic Strategy" (GEAR), is overshadowing the RDP and diminishing the emphasis on delivering social benefits. In reality, it seems the main hindrances to RDP implementation have been inadequate human resources capacity and disorganization within the relevant ministries.

For example, while the SAG has made progress in establishing sound housing policies over the past two years, the government has been slow in reaching its RDP target of building 1 million housing units by 1999. Estimates indicate that thus far, 200,000 to 300,000 units have been constructed. Reasons for the relatively slow pace include: high interest rates; banks' reluctance to extend loans in poor communities with high unemployment and a history of "rent boycotts"; a construction industry reluctant to put resources into the low-cost housing market; and difficulty finding improved land upon which to build low-income housing.

Nonetheless, there are some bright spots in the RDP portfolio. Eskom, the electricity parastatal, is currently ahead of its annual target to provide power to 300,000 homes in poor and rural areas. Small, medium and micro-enterprise development has made tremendous advances in bringing the previously disadvantaged into the economic mainstream. This past year saw a new national education bill that makes more resources available to the poorest communities. USAID and other USG agencies strongly support several RDP programs, including housing and electrification projects.

South Africa: New Constitution -- Key Features

President Nelson Mandela signed South Africa's new constitution into law on December 10, 1996. The constitution entered into effect on February 3, 1997, beginning a phasing-in period which will be largely completed by July, with the exception of elements of the 1993 interim constitution (e.g., provision for a Government of National Unity) which will continue in effect until 1999.

The drafters of the new constitution were faced with the difficulty of bringing together political parties with very different platforms to prepare a text which addressed not only traditional constitutional matters like the president and the national executive (the cabinet), the parliament, the judiciary, the provinces, and local governments, but also matters unique to South Africa such as the role of traditional leaders (tribal chiefs) and of the post-apartheid security services (military and police). To resolve this dilemma, the drafters opted for a lengthy (140-page) text which spells out in great detail rights and obligations, rather than adopting broader statements of principles.

The first significant change under the new constitution was the inauguration of the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) on February 6. The NCOP replaced the old senate, and is intended to give the nine provinces a more direct say at the national parliamentary level. Each province is entitled to 10 delegates in the NCOP.

Described by international constitutional experts during the drafting process as one of the world's most liberal documents, the constitution prohibits discrimination on any basis. Its bill of rights establishes an extensive number of rights, including the right to life, equal protection before the law, human dignity, freedom and security of the person, privacy, religion, expression, assembly, association, a safe environment, access to adequate housing, and access to health care, food, water, and social security. The bill of rights also addresses matters concerning children's rights, education, language and culture, and access to information.

The new constitution also creates six autonomous bodies to protect and support constitutional democracy. These bodies include: 1) the Public Protector (empowered to investigate any conduct in state affairs alleged to be improper or prejudicial); 2) the Human Rights Commission (empowered to investigate and secure appropriate redress where human rights have been violated); 3) the Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities (empowered to monitor, investigate and report on issues concerning the rights of these communities); 4) the Commission for Gender Equality (empowered to monitor, investigate and report on issues concerning gender equality);

5) the Auditor General (empowered to audit and report on financial management of all national, provincial and municipal departments); and 6) the Electoral Commission (empowered to manage national, provincial and municipal elections in accordance with national legislation in a manner which ensures they are free and fair).

The new constitution, while attaining broad, multi-party support in the South African Parliament, is not without controversial items likely to produce continued parliamentary debate. These include a prohibition of capital punishment (engendered in the "right to life" provision), guaranteed trade union rights, and a property clause which allows the state to redress the pattern of land ownership created by apartheid.

In addition, the constitution contains some rights and provisions which are more detailed than those normally set out at the constitutional level (e.g., right to an environment not harmful to health or well-being, right of access to adequate housing, right of access to health care, food and water, etc). Some of these rights (adequate housing and health care, for example) are presently beyond the capacity of the government to deliver, although the South African government has established as national policy the objective of providing adequate housing and health care for all citizens.

March 17-21 has been designated "Constitution Week" in South Africa, and will culminate in Human Rights Day on March 21. During that week, Parliament will be technically out of session, so that members may be in their respective constituencies promoting and distributing millions of copies of the new constitution.

South Africa: Arrival Statement

- o It is a great pleasure and honor to return to the "Rainbow Nation." I am reminded that the Zulu name for Johannesburg is "Egoli" (eh-GO-lee), the "place of gold," and that the new name of this province, Gauteng (how-TENG), which also means "place of gold," is a Sotho (SOO-too) word with Afrikaans roots.
- o I am pleased to greet you with "Hello," "Molweni" (mol-WAY-nee - Xhosa), "Sawubona" (sah-woo-BOH-nah - Zulu), "Goie Middag" (WHEE-ah mid-DAGH - Afrikaans), "Salaam" (sah-LAHM), and "Lekae" (leh-kiy - Sotho).
- o My apologies if I've mispronounced any of those greetings, but the remarkable richness of your cultural, linguistic and ethnic diversity demands recognition, even if poorly pronounced by a well-meaning American.
- o When I was last here, for the inauguration of President Mandela, this was a nation riding high on the euphoria of that remarkable moment and at the very center of international attention and admiration. Now, nearly three years later, South Africa's continuing achievements, your remarkably peaceful and rapid transformation to a non-racial democracy, are even more strongly a beacon of hope for nations grappling with democratic and economic reform.
- o Of course, South Africa still faces many challenges -- pressing needs for housing, education, health care, job creation and fighting the scourge of crime -- and I want you to know that the United States remains firmly committed to being your partner. We share so much -- philosophical ideals, our people's hopes, and concrete challenges -- that it is only natural that we continue to work together to realize our common goals.
- o I look forward to spending a few days here reacquainting myself with South Africa and seeing some of the progress your people have made and are continuing to make in building a non-racial, multi-ethnic and inclusive society.

South Africa: Departure Statement

- o I would like to thank everyone who has helped to make our visit to South Africa so enriching and rewarding.
- o I will carry home with me a new admiration for the people of South Africa and the remarkable achievements you have made in just three years.
- o I have also learned how blessed this country is with ideas, energy and commitment to a better future.
- o The South African people display an astounding depth of talent in government, business, science, the environment, education and culture.
- o To come to know the people of South Africa is to confirm optimism about this country's future.
- o We look forward to broadening and deepening our partnership with South Africa.
- o There is still a great deal we can learn from each other and many ways we can work together to solve common problems and reach common goals

SOUTH AFRICA: BILATERAL RELATIONS

Question:

What is your reaction to those who accuse the U.S. of trying to dictate foreign policy to South Africa?

Answer:

It is a normal practice of diplomacy to make our partners, including South Africa, aware of our concerns, and to urge their cooperation on issues of mutual interest. This is true in all areas -- political, economic/commercial, developmental and security -- of a normal relationship. U.S. officials enjoy excellent communication with their South African counterparts, and I think it is a sign of the mature partnership we enjoy that we can and do occasionally disagree -- amiably -- on some issues.

SOUTH AFRICA: CONTINUED ASSISTANCE

Question:

When will our assistance to South Africa end?

Answer:

The current assistance package, a \$435 million ten-year program, will continue through 2005.

Our assistance program is playing a critical role in the consolidation of a multi-party, free market democracy where all South Africans have a stake in the future of their country and their continent.

SOUTH AFRICA: USAID ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Question:

What has our assistance to South Africa accomplished?

Answer:

Since 1982, USAID's program in South Africa has focused on helping to dismantle apartheid and preparing the disadvantaged population for a leadership role in post-apartheid South Africa. USAID has taken a leading role in creating jobs and opening opportunities for black South Africans.

Since 1983, USAID has provided masters-level training for over 1,200 black South Africans in the U.S. and nearly 1,000 undergraduates in South Africa. In addition, 900 South Africans have benefited from short-term training. Many of those who received training are now playing key leadership roles in South Africa.

Our election assistance program reached an estimated 3.6 million previously disenfranchised voters for the historic, democratic 1994 elections.

Our present programs focus on supporting education, literacy, housing, economic empowerment and institution building programs.

SOUTH AFRICA: PEACE CORPS

Question:

When does the Peace Corps intend to start operating in South Africa? What are its goals?

Answer:

The first 32 Peace Corps Volunteers arrived in South Africa on February 15. An additional 30 volunteers will arrive in October. Education is a priority of the South African Government, and an area where the Peace Corps has extensive experience. Thus, Peace Corps volunteers will serve as a teaching-skills resource to South African primary school teachers and principals in the Northern Province. Our volunteers will also work to assist individuals engaged in a range of community development activities.

SOUTH AFRICA: PEACE CORPS

Question:

Why is Peace Corps opening a new program in South Africa while closing programs elsewhere in southern Africa?

Answer:

Peace Corps volunteers will serve in South Africa for the first time at the invitation of the South African Government. Vice President Gore had the honor of signing the country agreement establishing the Peace Corps program with Deputy President Mbeki in December 1995. The volunteers will work side-by-side with South African teachers to improve the quality of education for South Africa's youth. The Peace Corps' presence in South Africa is also an important opportunity for Americans to build personal ties at the grassroots level with the people of South Africa.

In recent years, the Peace Corps has had to make tough choices to reduce its expenditures, including leaving some countries. We are proud of the tremendous contributions that Peace Corps volunteers have made in many of these countries. In addition, most of the countries where the Peace Corps will be leaving have progressed economically and are better able to address their own development needs. We hope that our Peace Corps volunteers in South Africa will have the same positive impact as their colleagues have had throughout southern Africa.

SOUTH AFRICA: BINATIONAL COMMISSION

Question:

What is the purpose of the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission (BNC) and how does it work?

Answer:

The Binational Commission -- like the one the Vice President established with Russian Premier Chernomyrdin -- is already improving U.S.-South African cooperation, cutting red tape to expedite cooperation in areas of mutual concern, and encouraging a bilateral dialogue on a range of issues, especially relating to technology.

The Commission, which meets twice a year, enjoys the active participation of cabinet officials from both countries, under the leadership of Vice President Gore and South Africa's Deputy President Mbeki.

The Commission is composed of six committees: Agriculture; Conservation and Environment; Sustainable Energy Development; Human Resource Development and Education; Science and Technology; and Trade and Investment.

SOUTH AFRICA: ROLE IN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS/CONFLICT
RESOLUTION

Question:

With South Africa's professional armed forces and political influence in Africa, why haven't the South Africans moved to take a more active role in conflict resolution or peacekeeping operations?

Answer:

South Africa has contributed equipment and logistical support to the UN operation in Angola and medical support to the UN efforts in Rwanda.

South Africa has also been active diplomatically in helping to resolve a number of internal African conflicts, particularly in Lesotho, Angola, Burundi, and Nigeria, contributions which have helped contribute to stability in the region.

SOUTH AFRICA: ANTI-CRIME ASSISTANCE

Question:

Is the U.S. doing anything to help South Africa combat its growing crime problem?

Answer:

In July 1996, Vice President Gore and Deputy President Mbeki signed a Declaration on Mutual Anti-Crime Cooperation outlining the ways our countries can work together to reduce organized crime, drug trafficking, money laundering, and international terrorism.

Steps we are already taking in cooperation with South Africa include opening regional offices in Pretoria of our Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and U.S. customs Service to maintain liaison with South African law enforcement authorities.

We have also allotted \$1 million this year to provide criminal justice expertise and training for South African officials, as well as additional funds for a professional study of drug use in South Africa.

SOUTH AFRICA: TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION

Question:

Hasn't the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, in raking up the embers of the past, made reconciliation more difficult? Why did President Mandela extend the life of the Commission?

Answer:

South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission was established in 1995 to investigate apartheid-era, politically-motivated crimes. The Commission conducts hearings through its three Committees on Human Rights Abuses, Amnesty for Perpetrators, and Reparations for Victims.

The Commission provides a means for all South Africans to deal with their past, to establish the truth of the events that took place during apartheid, and to lay the basis for genuine reconciliation. In acknowledging that abuses took place on both sides, it has given all people and parties in South Africa a unique opportunity to understand what happened to the country and to individuals and to move ahead.

Both the head of the TRC, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and President Nelson Mandela believed that the time for applications for amnesty and for testimony to the Commission should be extended, a decision that attests to the Commission's importance in South Africa.

We believe the Commission continues to play an important role in South Africa's ongoing transition.

SOUTH AFRICA: NEW CONSTITUTION

Question:

What is the United States' position on the adoption of a new constitution in South Africa?

Answer:

The process by which South Africa finalized its constitution is in the finest democratic tradition. After the Constitutional Court rejected eight provisions in the draft document, they were revised in a timely and orderly manner, and adopted with broad, multiparty support.

With this permanent constitution, characterized by its drafters as "one law for one people," South Africa has yet again confirmed its membership in the growing international family of nations in Africa and around the world devoted to democracy and to the protection of human rights. The commitment shown by South Africans to reject the legacy of violence and factionalism that all too often dominates such a fundamental change in government is an inspiring example to all nations.

We congratulate South Africa's Government of National Unity and all South Africans on this outstanding achievement.

SOUTH AFRICA: RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Question:

Are we helping South Africa raise funds for the Reconstruction and Development Program (RDP)?

Answer:

The United States focuses our assistance program on development priorities identified by the Reconstruction and Development Program (RDP). Our assistance goes to individual projects which support the broad goals outlined by the RDP, but not to any general fund.

The South African Government has reorganized its administration of the RDP. The Deputy President's office now oversees the implementation of the RDP's goals, and the Finance Ministry controls the expenditure of South African funds.

SOUTH AFRICA: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Question:

Why is the U.S. providing so much money to a country that is so rich and has so many resources? Wouldn't the money be better spent in other countries of Africa that are so much poorer?

Answer:

South Africa has undergone a tremendous political transformation in the past four years. As we all know, it still faces many economic and developmental challenges. The United States strongly supports South Africa's development and economic goals. Its potential to become an engine for the entire region is great, and we think it critical to support its efforts during these early years of transition.

South Africa has a vast income gap between the haves and have nots. The newly-enfranchised majority needs jobs, adequate housing, better education, and accessible health care. Our assistance is designed to help jump-start the economy. A strong South African economy will ultimately act as a regional catalyst of benefit to all of the economies of southern Africa.

FYI: 1996 STATISTICS

POPULATION	42.7 MILLION
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT	\$119 BILLION
GDP GROWTH RATE	3.3%
PER CAPITA GDP	\$3,081
INFLATION RATE	8.7%

SOURCE: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COUNTRY COMMERCIAL GUIDE
1995

SOUTH AFRICA: ASSISTANCE

Question:

With the advent of democracy and the tremendous needs in South Africa, why aren't we giving the Government of South Africa more assistance?

Answer:

South Africa has one of the largest USAID programs in sub-Saharan Africa. In May 1994 the President more than doubled FY-94 USAID assistance levels to \$212 million and announced a three-year, government-wide program of nearly \$600 million.

This initial assistance package was superseded in October 1996, by a new ten-year, \$435 million program. USAID's South Africa program will continue through 2005.

These programs are both specifically designed in partnership with South Africa to support its most critical development goals.

We are the largest bilateral donor to South Africa.

Furthermore, our enhanced assistance package is designed to leverage funds from the private sector through several types of loan guaranty programs. For example, one of our housing guaranty programs has been matched with twice as much money from the South African private sector to provide a significant pool of funds for construction of desperately needed housing for the disadvantaged community.

SOUTH AFRICA: AID TO BLACK BUSINESSES

Question:

Are there any specific programs to assist black businesses in South Africa? Is the U.S. government giving special encouragement to minority-owned firms in the United States?

Answer:

The ongoing Private Enterprise Development Project is an \$83 million, fourteen-year effort to overcome the harsh legacies of apartheid. It focuses on developing business skills and financing systems for black South Africans.

USAID does not have a specific program to give special encouragement to minority-owned firms in the United States. USAID, however, does assure that U.S. minority businesses are given full consideration and opportunity in competition for contracts in South Africa.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1997

An African Icon, Mandela's Other Is Significant in Her Own Right

By Lynne Duke

Washington Post Foreign Service

President Nelson Mandela is a former freedom fighter. So is the woman he loves. He has a law degree. She does too. Mandela is a towering figure on the national scene, viewed by many South Africans as indispensable. Graca Machel holds iconic status of her own back home in Mozambique, and not only because she is a former first lady.

She has fought in the trenches of guerrilla warfare and helped liberate her country. She served as a minister in Mozambique's post-independence government, when she married Mozambique's first president and then became his widow, but moved on from the tragedy to become an internationally known children's advocate.

"She is a modern woman," said a Mozambican who is a close friend of Machel's family.

"She is a person of achievement in her own right," said Shirley Mabusela, deputy chair of South Africa's Human Rights Commission, who has worked with Machel on children's rights projects. "She's not coming into the country to find her place in the sun."

Machel, already well known here because of her political credentials in one of southern Africa's several struggles against colonialism and white-minority rule, can add yet another distinction to her long list: She is the woman who has brought happiness to a once solitary figure with the weight of a nation on his shoulders.

Mandela, 78, the political prisoner turned president, and Machel, 51, became the hottest item in southern Africa last year when, after months of furtive kisses and international rendezvous, they told the world what they mean to each other.

Though only a few months after his divorce from Winnie Mandela, Mandela's newly public romance with Machel captured the heart of South Africa. "President Nelson Mandela is in love," blared a leading Sunday newspaper, starting a week of giddy news coverage in which everyone had something to say about the well-being of their leader. The official revelation was made only after private discussions with Mandela's political party, the African National Congress, and Machel's family and colleagues in Mozambique.

After those first tentative steps into the public domain, Machel, whose office said she was too busy to be interviewed for this article, departed South Africa today on her first

state visit with Mandela, this one to Asia. Reflecting the new frontiers to which this relationship has pushed protocol, "her official capacity is 'companion,'" said Mandela's spokesman, Parks Mankahlana, who struggles with how to handle the status of a woman who is not quite the first lady.

The heightened public profile of Mandela and Machel has fueled speculation of nuptials soon to come. But the couple do not plan to wed, Mandela's aides say. They live together part-time, with Machel spending about two weeks a month in South Africa with Mandela—in Pretoria, Johannesburg, Cape Town or wherever his shuttling presidency takes him. Retired Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and others have suggested it would perhaps be better if the two were to set a moral example through marriage.

But Machel has said she remains deeply committed to the life and development of Mozambique, an Indian Ocean country that is among the world's poorest, where she holds a unique political and symbolic status.

On a more emotional level, she has said

she will always be Mrs. Samora Machel, the widow of independent Mozambique's first president, who died in a mysterious plane crash over South African territory in 1986. Mandela recently called for a new inquiry into Machel's death.

"She went through very tough times," said the family friend. Some reports say that she remained in mourning for five years. But in recent years she has emerged as a public figure, her humanitarian works earning her a stature in Mozambique that transcends that of presidential widow. "It would be a bit of a pity for Mozambique if she did get married," the friend said.

Mozambique's minister of education for 11 years until 1986, Machel has become a kind of roving international ambassador for children's rights and development. She is known for her intense commitment and passion, as well as her command of children's issues, friends say.

She runs a community development program in Mozambique and maintains an office in the capital, Maputo. She chairs the Mo-

zambican National Commission for UNESCO, the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Last year, she submitted a report to the U.N. General Assembly that it had commissioned on the impact of armed conflict on children. This week, she hosted an international conference in Maputo on controlling the use of land mines.

Here in South Africa, she has helped the Truth and Reconciliation Commission develop mechanisms for dealing with the trauma suffered by children during the years of apartheid. That commission is investigating the human rights abuses of the apartheid era, when oppression's reach crossed from South Africa to its neighboring countries as this country's white-minority governments sought to bend those newly independent nations to its will.

Though of different generations and different countries, Machel and Mandela share the experience of having struggled against oppression—she against Portuguese colonialism, he against apartheid. Some of Machel's struggle was against apartheid too, since

South Africa routinely sponsored raids on the South African anti-apartheid guerrilla groups hiding in Mozambique and also funded a Mozambican opposition movement that plagued that country's black government from the time of independence in 1975.

That pressure prompted Samora Machel to sign an accord with white-ruled South Africa in 1984 that committed Mozambique to cut back on its support for the ANC in exchange for Pretoria's pledge of noninterference.

In 1990, shortly after Mandela's release from 27 years of political imprisonment, I met Graca Machel for the first time when I became godfather of her children, assuming the role previously held by the late ANC president Oliver Tambo.

They met again in 1992 when Machel was receiving an honorary degree from the University of the Western Cape in Cape Town. It was during this second meeting that Machel reportedly became intrigued. Just when the romance developed is unknown.

That same year, Mandela's 38-year marriage to Winnie Mandela ended in separation. The Mandelas, whose marriage predated his imprisonment, had become icons of the liberation movement, a couple that son viewed as the mother and father of the movement.

While Mandela was in prison, his wife suffered intense personal trauma at the hands of apartheid security officials, including imprisonment and banishment to a remote area, as she tried to keep Mandela's name alive. But when he was released in 1991, times had changed, and so had they.

Last March, they divorced after public and poignant courtroom appearances that heaped such an emotional attraction for their followers that crowds gathered outside the courthouse to follow the proceedings. Mandela accused his wife of "brazen infidelity." Not known to wax emotional, he stunned the nation with his deeply personal admission that Winnie never entered his bedroom while he was awake. He called himself "the loneliest man."

But Winnie Mandela remains a political force here. She is a member of Parliament. She leads the ANC Women's League. As such, she appears frequently in public.

The paths of the ex-wife and the new companion were bound to cross, and they did quite publicly one recent day when Mandela and Machel found themselves sharing a podium with Winnie—she at one end, they at the other, in an awkward moment that probably won't be the last.

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. reports	bios (8 pages)	c 03/1997	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Speechwriting (Noa Meyer Subject Files)
OA/Box Number: 13006

FOLDER TITLE:

The Trip of the First Lady to Senegal, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Uganda, and
Eritrea, March 15-29, 1997 (Shipley, S Africa, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Uganda, Eritrea)
[Binder] [2]

2012-0869-S
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RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

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RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

JAMES A. JOSEPH
UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Mr. James A. Joseph was sworn in as U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa on January 3, 1996. He succeeds Princeton Lyman.

Prior to assuming his current duties, Mr. Joseph was President and Chief Executive Officer of the Council on Foundations. He joined the Council in 1982, after a distinguished career in government, business and education. He was the Under Secretary of the Interior from 1977-81, and a Vice President of Cummins Engine Company and President of the Cummins Engine Foundation from 1972-77.

Mr. Joseph has served four U.S. presidents. He was appointed Under Secretary of the Interior by President Jimmy Carter and also served as Chairman of the Presidentially-appointed Commission on the Northern Mariana Islands. Mr. Joseph was a member of the Advisory Committee to the Agency for International Development under President Reagan, and was appointed an incorporating director of the Points of Light Foundation and a member of the Presidential Commission on Historically Black Colleges by President Bush. President Clinton appointed him Chairman of the Board of the Corporation for National Service. Mr. Joseph often represents the United States abroad, and has served as the Chairman of official U.S. government delegations to Mexico, Micronesia, Canada and a United Nations conference in Kenya; and as a member of specially-invited, citizen delegations to the former Soviet Union, Japan, Ethiopia, Israel, Costa Rica and Southern Africa.

He first visited South Africa in 1973 and since then has been involved in a wide variety of initiatives in support of South Africans working for political, economic and social change. As President of the Council on Foundations, he consulted with leaders of the African National Congress on the involvement of foundations in South Africa, and was a founder of the Affinity Group on Southern Africa to encourage grants to the region. He has met many of the new leaders of South Africa, including President Mandela, whom he first met in 1992.

Born in Opelousas, Louisiana on March 12, 1925, he is a graduate of Southern University and Yale Divinity School. He has taught at Yale University and The Claremont Colleges, and has served as a Visiting Fellow at Nuffield College at Oxford University. Mr. Joseph also taught at Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, where he was a leader in the local Civil Rights Movement. An ordained minister, he was also Chaplain of The Claremont Colleges, and a member of the Faculty of the School of Theology.

South Africa

31 Peace Corps Trainees

Peace Corps Country Overview

The Peace Corps had been interested in working in South Africa since the country held democratic elections in April, 1994. In October 1994, Presidents Clinton and Mandela met to seal a friendship and make a promise to the future: to work together in the transformation of South Africa from a nation divided to one united by its commitment to the building of a democratic, multi-racial society. They agreed that Peace Corps Volunteers would comprise part of that effort. Vice President Gore joined Deputy President Mbeki in signing the Peace Corps country agreement in Pretoria the following year.

In February 1997, the first group of Peace Corps Volunteers arrived in South Africa. The Volunteers were welcomed to South Africa by Vice President Gore and Deputy President Mbeki in Cape Town during the recent U.S. South Africa binational commission meetings there (a copy of the Vice President's remarks are attached). The 31 Volunteers, who fully reflect the age and ethnic diversity of our country, are currently undergoing a 12 week training program. Upon completion of their training, they will work side-by-side with South African teachers in the country's Northern Province, to improve the quality of education in primary schools.

Education

31 Trainees

South Africa's educational system exemplifies the country's recent history. Teachers, students and parents are transforming the culture of resistance against the former regime into a culture of cooperation. South African educators speak of a widespread commitment to minimize the damage done by apartheid by developing assertiveness, leadership, self-confidence, a sense of pride in partnership, and security among teachers, learners and parents.

Volunteers will work with teachers to assist in the development of human and material resources in the primary schools situated in traditionally underserved areas, such as the former homelands. Once Volunteers have established community ties, they will continue to work in the schools, while at the same time assisting communities in developing solutions to locally identified problems.

Peace Corps Staff

Country DirectorEarl Yates
APCD Education.....Judith Oki
APCD/Administration.....John Peterson
Training Coordinator..... Simanga Ntando
Area Medical Officer..... Dr. Michael Silvers
PC Medical Officer.....Kiki Jackson

Country Director Biography

Earl Yates has served as Peace Corps Director in South Africa since July, 1996. He has nineteen years of program development and management experience. Since 1987, he has been with the Academy for Educational Development (AED). As Vice President and Directory of Basic Services and Training Services from 1987-1991, he was responsible for overseeing the implementation of ten USAID-funded basic education and training projects throughout Southern Africa and Central America.

Since 1991, he has been Senior Vice President and Director of the Human Resources and Institutional Development Division in AED. This involved the management of twenty technical assistance and training projects with total budgets of \$236 million dollars. He was responsible for supervising four Department Directors who oversaw daily operations of twenty projects throughout Africa, Asia, Central/Eastern Europe, Latin America and North America.

Prior to working with AED he was:

- the Managing Director of the Consulting Group Inc., where he directed an education project in South Africa for two years,
- the Program Management Officer for the Africa Bureau, USAID where he developed training programs for disadvantaged students,
- the Research Assistant for the World Bank in which he assisted in the preparation of a commodity study and
- the Research Intern for the House of Representative's Subcommittee on Africa.

Mr. Yates earned a bachelor's degree in Spanish and French from Howard University and a master's degree in International Relations from the University of Southern California.

Current Peace Corps Volunteers and Trainees serving in South Africa

	Last Name	First Name	Project Title	Hometown	State
1	Alvarez	Lorena	Schools and Communities	Anaheim	CA
2	Aquino	Christopher	Schools and Communities	Anchorage	AK
3	Bright	Anita	Schools and Communities	Albuquerque	NM
4	Chen	Michelle	Schools and Communities	San Francisco	CA
5	Christensen	Carl	Schools and Communities	Evanston	IL
6	Cleland Jr.	Gary	Schools and Communities	Covington	LA
7	Delatorre	Jose	Schools and Communities	Willcox	AZ
8	Dennard	Eric	Schools and Communities	Rancho Cucamong	CA
9	Dorsey	Aaron	Schools and Communities	Oakland	CA
10	Douglas	Steven	Schools and Communities	Towson	MD
11	Durand	Sabrina	Schools and Communities	Lakeland	FL
12	Fenlason	Clay	Schools and Communities	Broomfield	CO
13	Galup	Guillermo	Schools and Communities	Ft. Lauderdale	FL
14	Glin	C.D.	Schools and Communities	New Orleans	LA
15	Harley	Norma	Schools and Communities	Sacramento	CA
16	Hernandez	Denise	Schools and Communities	North Bergen	NJ
17	Keith	John	Schools and Communities	Champaign	IL
18	Kubit	Jennifer	Schools and Communities	Brecksville	OH
19	Law	Lincoln	Schools and Communities	Los Angeles	CA
20	Lee	Mike	Schools and Communities	Boston	MA
21	McCluskey	Patrick	Schools and Communities	Glen Ellyn	IL
22	McGovern	Michael	Schools and Communities	Stuart	FL
23	McNutt	Enid	Schools and Communities	Lebanon	IL
24	Nelson	Britt	Schools and Communities	Lakeland	MN
25	Odenthal	Kristin	Schools and Communities	Coeur D'Alene	ID
26	Perry	Marcenia	Schools and Communities	Cleveland	OH
27	Soper	Sharon	Schools and Communities	Savannah	MO
28	Strong	Kathleen	Schools and Communities	Euclid	OH
29	Watson	Marcus	Schools and Communities	Buffalo	NY
30	Wietecha	Ronald	Schools and Communities	Park Ridge	IL
31	Wilson	Ernestine	Schools and Communities	Stone Mountain	GA

VICE PRESIDENT GORE'S REMARKS
CROSSROADS
FEBRUARY 16, 1997

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May I say, first of all, thank you to this beautiful choir. Weren't they wonderful? Thank you so much for your fantastic performance. I want to thank Neomi Boye (phonetic) for his wonderful introduction and for his guided tour. Ladies and gentlemen, it's a great privilege for me to come here to Crossroads with my friend Deputy President Thabo Mbeki. Thabo has told me about Crossroads on many occasions. He has obviously a special place in his heart for this community because in the three meetings that we have had of our commission, every time in our private discussions he has told me, Al, you have to come to Crossroads; you have to visit this place; you have to see for yourselves. In addition to this choir, may I say I can't help noticing that there are some very beautiful dresses and outfits out there. I've been watching very carefully. May I also acknowledge some of the other distinguished guests who are here - Counselor Ellis Dupark (phonetic); Counselor G.Y. Melford; the Ambassador of my country, James Joseph and his wife Mary. I believe that the Ambassador of South Africa to the United States, Franklin Sonn, is here. Your Minister of Education, Professor Sibusiso Beane and from the Foreign Affairs Ministry Aziz Pahad; Rev. Franklin Chilcane, who has played such a key role in making our Commission successful and the country director of the Peace Corps, Earl Yates.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am convinced, along with Thabo Mbeki, that the future of any country lies in the education of its people. Walking through Crossroads, you can see in the faces of the children, the potential of the future of humankind. If that potential is reached, it will be because this nation, South Africa, and my nation, the United States, has the wisdom to invest in education and to make it possible for their minds to develop and to have access to all the knowledge that is available in our world. Governments can play an important role, but civic organizations that support the society at large also have a key role. And here today we see the proof of this. The Thabo Mbeki Crossroads Education Fund, a private trust, has begun the process of giving educational opportunity to the students of Crossroads.

Knowing Thabo Mbeki's keen recognition of the importance of math and science education, I am especially proud to announce today the arrival in South Africa of the very first group of American Peace Corps volunteers to work in South Africa. We are happy that you are here and I would like to ask the Peace Corps Volunteers to stand and be recognized.

Thank you. Thank you very much. Many years ago in 1961, the Peace Corps was begun under President John Kennedy. I'm very proud that my late sister, Nancy Gore Ungar, was the very first volunteer to the Peace Corps back in 1961. And, the Peace Corps has always had a special place in the hearts of Americans because it embodies our desire as a people to reach out in partnership and friendship in peace to work together with the people of other countries to lift the prospects of all human kind. We believe that the arrival of this Peace Corps contingent in South Africa is a very bright moment, not only in the history of our bilateral relationship, but in the history of our nation's relationship to the rest of the world.

During my last visit I announced the establishment of our Peace Corps program in South Africa. Now we see the tangible follow through. And in developing the Peace Corps program, we followed the suggestion of Deputy President Mbeki, expressed through our binational commission



BY ASSOCIATED PRESS

Retired South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu chatted with Vice President Al Gore during Gore's visit to Cape Town

Gore Leads Peace Corps Into South Africa

Associated Press

Cape Town

Vice President Al Gore saw the prison where Nelson Mandela was incarcerated, introduced the country's first Peace Corps volunteers and discussed "everything under the sun" with Desmond Tutu on the second day of his South African visit yesterday.

Gore met separately with President Mandela and retired Archbishop Tutu, both Nobel Peace Prize winners.

The close relationship between the United States and South Africa has come under strain recently because of a possible South African arms sale to Syria. If the sale goes through, the United States has said it would suspend certain economic aid packages.

Tutu is on leave from his post as chairman of South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission while he recovers from surgery for prostate cancer. "We began with a prayer," Gore said of the meeting with Tutu. "We laughed a lot."

Gore also visited Robben Island prison, where former political prisoners, including Mandela, were incarcerated. "What they lived through is unbelievable," he said.

Gore also visited an education fund that sponsors students from one of Cape Town's poorest black townships, Cross Roads, where he introduced the first group of U.S. Peace Corps volunteers to be stationed in South Africa in the organization's 36-year history.

US Peace Corps volunteers on way to help rebuild SA

RICH MCHONDO
WASHINGTON BUREAU

Washington - The first group of 33 Peace Corps volunteers to be sent to South Africa in the organisation's 36-year history, arrive this weekend for a two-year assignment.

Peace Corps officials said yesterday members, whose ages range from 23 to 65 years, would meet Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and United States Vice President Al Gore when

they arrived in Cape Town tomorrow.

Mr Gore is in South Africa for the third summit of the US-South Africa Binational Commission, a body formed three years ago to strengthen the two countries' relations in many areas, including trade and industry.

After three months of training in local languages, cross-cultural communications and technical skills inside South Africa, they will be sent to Mpumalanga and Northern Province to concentrate on the improvement of sanitation, agricul-

ture, education, rural health care, nutrition, the environment and small business development.

The volunteers will focus particularly on smaller communities of fewer than 5 000 people. Some will live with local families, others will rent houses and live in small groups.

Thirty-three other recruits will arrive in South Africa in October, to be sent to other parts of the country.

Peace Corps director Mark Gearan called the deployment an historic move that would help strengthen rela-

tions between the two countries, and said: "Never before has an American government effort like this worked so comprehensively at the grassroots level of South Africa.

"Given the progress made by South Africans, and given how quickly they have been able to move forward, the Peace Corps probably won't remain there for more than 10 years," he said.

At least 6 500 Peace Corps volunteers serve in 93 countries. There are 2 400 volunteers in 31 other African countries.

Cape Argus, Mon. Feb. 17, 97



LEON MÜLLER

Peace power: peace corps members Sabrina Durand, left, and Michelle Chen with Muriel Tuluwana in Crossroads

Tomba. "These are obviously good time for me," she observes, "but do you realize he's winning every time you all the major events; he's been doing it for 10 years?"

Indeed, Tomba now has 48 victories, behind Sweden's peerless Ingemar Stenmark, who triumphed 86 times including 14 giant slaloms in a row before retiring. The two men are the Babe Ruth and Hank Aaron of alpine skiing.

There have been other greats, including Jean-Claude Killy of France, Tony Sailer and Karl Schranz of Austria, and Thoeni himself.

But not even Killy, who thrilled home fans at the 1968 Winter Olympics in Grenoble by winning gold medals in all three disciplines — slalom, giant slalom and downhill — has Tomba's engagingly abrasive charisma.

The Italian's legions of fans refuse to back away from him even as he shows the telltale signs of decline. "You can call it virility, macho, you can disparage it any way you want, but he's a champion and he loves us," says Heidi Marienbagger, a 36-year-old Tomba fan who trekked to Sestriere from her native Vienna.

Others have arrived from Japan, Spain, Israel and South

Turning 30 on Dec. 19, Tomba has increasingly sounded as if he's on the wrong side of a rite of passage. On Monday, when often-injured rival Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg announced his retirement at 33, Tomba waxed wistful: "I'm sad, really, because without Marc I'll just feel more alone and older."

In many respects, Tomba is a classic prisoner of his own success. Earlier this year, Swedish ace Pernilla Wiberg, who leads this year's women's World Cup standings, called him a "liar, who should keep his mouth shut."

Why the venom? "Tomba claims that he never trains," intones Wiberg, "that he just drinks wine and hangs out. I'll tell you what, he trains twice as hard as any of us."

Adds Merlo: "There's no sure thing on retirement. The idea, say, of going to a fourth Olympics, to enter legend and the history books like Carl Lewis, that's the kind of thing that might attract him."

To which Tomba reacts with a wink. "Nagano? It's a long way away, it's close. Who it could be my fourth and a chance to say yes. It could also be a chance to say, 'Hey, I'll make to 2000; I'll see you in 2002.'"

Next stop: South Africa

Peace Corps group to help rural youths

By Evelyn Tan Powers
USA TODAY

Shunned for decades as an international pariah, South Africa had to make its long walk to freedom alone.

What a difference the last few years have made.

Nelson Mandela became president in 1994 after the demise of apartheid, and this month — Black History Month in the USA — the Peace Corps will send volunteers to South Africa for the first time ever.

"Sending volunteers to South Africa is a momentous step," says Peace Corps director Mark Gearan. "By living and working at the grass-roots level, Peace Corps volunteers can further strengthen the personal tie between our two countries."

The Peace Corps was created 35 years ago by President John F. Kennedy, who hoped to promote global peace and understanding by sending Americans to serve communities abroad.

Today, about 6,500 volunteers are in more than 90 countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. South Africa will be the 132nd country the Peace Corps has entered.

The 33 volunteers who are headed for South Africa — after a jubilant sendoff Thursday at Howard University in Washington featuring a keynote speech by the Rev. Jesse Jackson — includes 12 African Americans, the largest percentage of African Americans ever in a Peace Corps class, says Peace Corps spokesman Brendan Daly. The group also includes four Hispanics and three Asian Americans.

After three months' orientation and language training in Pretoria, the volunteers will spend two years in South Africa's Northern Province, along the border with Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mozambique, where they will help improve the teaching of math, science and other subjects to traditionally underserved youth.

"I'm personally interested in knowing what the land of my ancestors was like," says Michael Johnson, 24, a volunteer from Denver. Johnson says his family is "elated, nervous, anxious and proud" of what he is about to do.

Clemenceau Williams, 65 — a Tuskegee University graduate who taught at U.S. Dept. of De-



By H. Day Baker, USA TODAY

Pioneers all: The first Peace Corps volunteers in South Africa — from left, Clemenceau Williams, Michael Johnson, Lorena Alvarez, C.D. Glin Jr. and Ronald Wietecha — will focus their efforts in improving the teaching of math, science and other subjects to under-served youths in the country's Northern Province.

How to join Peace Corps

Peace Corps Volunteers have been fighting hunger, disease, illiteracy, poverty and lack of opportunity around the world since 1961.

So far, 147,000 volunteers and trainees have served in 131 countries.

U.S. citizens over 18 are eligible to join. Of about 6,500 current volunteers:

- Average age: 29.
- Gender: 57% female.
- Marital status: 91% are single.
- Minorities: 13%.
- Volunteers over 50: 7%.
- Education: 98% have bachelor's degrees; 16% have graduate degrees.

Information on the application process can be found on the Internet site of the Peace Corps, at <http://www.peacecorps.gov>. Peace Corps head-

quarters in Washington, D.C.: 1990 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20526. Tel: (800) 424-8580 or (703) 235-9191. Fax: (703) 235-9189. E-mail: dcinfo@peacecorps.gov.

Prospective applicants who live outside the USA also can contact a Peace Corps recruiting office directly:

► Requests from Europe, Africa or the Americas: Peace Corps Recruiting Office, 6 World Trade Center, Room 611, New York, NY 10048-0900. Phone: (212) 466-2477. Fax: (212) 466-2473. E-mail: nyinfo@peacecorps.gov.

► Requests from the Asia-Pacific region: Peace Corps Recruiting Office, 333 Market St., No. 600, San Francisco, CA 94105. Phone: (415) 977-8800. Fax: (415) 977-8803. E-mail: sfinfo@peacecorps.gov.

tense schools in Korea, Japan, Turkey, Germany and Ethiopia — came out of retirement to become part of this group. "I've been a product of a segregated system back in the early years of my life," Williams says. "I can relate to their problems."

For Ronald Wietecha, 26, who has a master's degree in secondary education, this trip will have special meaning because his mother was a Peace Corps volunteer in Ethiopia 30 years ago. "My mom always talked fondly about it as a great experience," he says.

Howard University graduate C.D. Glin Jr., 24, used to write political rap about South Africa while in high school in Azores, Portugal. In 1995, he went to Ghana on a U.S. Information

Agency fellowship. "This trip is a culmination of all that," he says. "Now we're going to go there to create peace."

Lorena Alvarez, 29, of Anaheim, Calif., who has an M.A. in bilingual education from Columbia Teacher's College, is unfazed by the thought of living in a rural area for two years. "Sometimes in the United States we just forget how fortunate we are," Alvarez says. "I've been describing this experience as walking through a history book," she adds.

"I'll be able to bring that back and share."

USA Abroad appears Wednesdays and Fridays in USA TODAY's overseas editions

17TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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February 17, 1997 Monday, NORTHWEST SPORTS FINAL EDITION

SECTION: METRO NORTHWEST; Pg. 3; ZONE: NW

LENGTH: 98 words

HEADLINE: MAYOR'S SON JOINS PEACE CORPS CAMPAIGN

DATELINE: PARK RIDGE

BODY:

Ronald O. Wietecha, son of Park Ridge Mayor Ron Wietecha, will be part of the first group of Peace Corps volunteers to serve in South Africa, according to his family.

Ronald O. Wietecha, a high school science teacher, was accepted to the Peace Corps recently.

A graduate of Stanford University, Ronald O. Wietecha taught high school science in Burlingame and Sunnyvale, Calif., before entering the corps.

He will be among 33 volunteers in the northern part of South Africa to improve teaching in math and science, and other projects that were neglected under apartheid.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: February 17, 1997

Date: Sunday, February 16, 1997 12:57:36 PM
From: AOLNewsProfiles@aol.net
Subj: Peace Corps Arrives in S. Africa

c The Associated Press

By ALEXANDRA ZAVIS

Associated Press Writer

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP) -- Lorena Alvarez was the first person in her family to earn a college degree. The 28-year-old Californian is now among the first U.S. Peace Corps volunteers to help poor South African blacks improve their lives through education.

"It is like walking into a history book," Alvarez, of Anaheim, Calif., said after landing at Cape Town International Airport on Saturday.

Alvarez and 31 others are taking part in the Peace Corps' first mission to South Africa in the organization's 36-year history.

The Peace Corps moved in after a new constitution guaranteeing equal rights for all took effect Feb. 1. The volunteers hope to help South Africa's fledgling democracy recover from decades of apartheid.

The group is diverse, socially, economically, ethnically and culturally. The Peace Corps director for South Africa, Earl Yates, said that was no accident. "It was very important ... that this be a diverse group," he said.

"Part of the message that we are trying to deliver here is that people of different culture and different ethnicity can live and work together for the common good," said Denise Hernandez, 25, a primary school teacher from North Bergen, N.J.

Retired math teacher Lincoln Law, 59, lived through segregation in Los Angeles.

"The experience I have had in America is very similar to the experience black people have had in South Africa," Law said. "I think I can bring that experience to bear here."

The volunteers, ranging in age from 23 to 65, will receive three months of training before spending the rest of their two years working to improve primary education in the predominantly rural Northern Province.

The Peace Corps plans to bring in 30 more volunteers every year for the next two years, spreading into other parts of the country. The next group of volunteers is scheduled to arrive in October.

Mandela's government has achieved moderate, steady economic growth since coming into power in 1994's all-race election that ended apartheid. It has also started to bring electricity, water and other basic services to the impoverished black majority.

Given South Africa's steady progress, the Peace Corps is unlikely to stay in the country more than 10 years, Peace Corps

Director Mark Gearan said recently in Washington.

South Africa is the 132nd country the Peace Corps has entered. About 6,500 Peace Corps volunteers serve in 93 countries.

Howard Grad Blazing a Trail To South Africa

24-Year-Old Is Among 33 Volunteers
On Country's 1st Peace Corps Team

By Valerie Strauss
Washington Post Staff Writer

Until recently, it never occurred to C.D. Glin Jr. that life would lead him to South Africa—not during the years he studied it in school, not when he wrote anti-apartheid rap songs and not on the day he shook Nelson Mandela's hand at a Washington reception.

Now the 24-year-old Howard University graduate is among the first group of Peace Corps volunteers to be dispatched to South Africa. Glin and 32 other men and women from across the United States leave tonight for a two-year assignment.

"I don't want to say it was destiny, but . . ." Glin said this week as fellow volunteers, their faces alive with excitement, greeted one another at a downtown hotel. Shaking his head and laughing, he recalled how a Peace Corps recruiter brought up the mission:

"He said, 'There is something for you.'

"I said, 'What?'

"He said, 'South Africa.'

"ht, 'Wow. I mean, high school, college, Mandela I'd wait as long as I had to.'

are about 6,500 Peace Corps volunteers serving in 90 countries. They provide assistance in education, health, nutrition, agriculture, the environment and small business development. The new team of recruits for South Africa was formed after South African President Mandela requested volunteers in 1995 to help his nation cast off apartheid's painful legacies.

"This is historic for us," said agency director Mark Gearan. "It reflects my view that the Peace Corps must always stay on the cutting edge. We are serving in countries today that didn't exist 35 years ago or where we couldn't get a passport to 35 years ago."

Glin (the C.D. is a family tradition and doesn't stand for any name) is one of two members of the team from the mid-Atlantic region. The other is Steven Douglas, 27, a Baltimore resident and Morehouse College graduate who began working with teenagers in foster care after the Peace Corps initially told him he needed experience in the work world before going overseas.

Glin, Douglas and their compatriots will be in Northern Province, one of South Africa's poorest and most rural areas. They will concentrate on helping teachers improve their skills, particularly in math and science, and on strengthening principals' management skills.

For the next three months, the group will train intensively in local languages, cross-cultural communications and technical skills, according to Earl Yates, the agency's country director in South Africa and a 1967 Howard University graduate.

Then the volunteers will work in different communities, mostly towns of less than 5,000 people, where



BY CAROL GUZY—THE WASHINGTON POST

Howard graduate C.D. Glin Jr., left, and Steven Douglas join other Peace Corps volunteers in an assimilation exercise.

schools struggle with classes of more than 50 students and virtually no resources.

Some will live with local families; others will stay in modest homes of their own, said Yates, who has been in South Africa for more than seven months getting ready for the volunteers. Though most recruits complete their two-year tour of duty, Yates said a few typically have trouble adjusting and drop out for personal reasons.

Glin said he has no intention of cutting out early, especially since he has been waiting so long to go. The New York native grew up in a family of five children; his mother held a degree in social work and his father was in the Air Force. The family traveled, and Glin lived in Britain, Italy and Portugal's Azore Islands, where he attended high school and began studying South Africa.

"I'd sit with my friends," he recalled, "and we'd do rap lyrics" about how apartheid disenfranchised the country's majority-black population: "It's 1990 and they still aren't free/Can't even vote in their own country."

He later attended Howard University, where he pursued political science and African studies. In 1993, while interning at the TransAfrica advocacy organization, he attended a reception for Mandela.

"It was almost spiritual," Glin said, "like meeting George Washington." He also volunteered in Arlington, teaching English to immigrants, and he supervised summer camp for youngsters at the D.C. Department of Recreation and Parks.

Glin decided to join the U.S. Foreign Service and interned for three months in 1995 at the U.S. Embassy in Ghana.

"That's when I decided to put off graduate school, to put off the Foreign Service and do the Peace Corps," he said. "It was the kids there. . . . They asked me about America, they asked about Michael Jordan. They wanted to know if the streets were paved with gold in America. I

wanted to give them a piece of America, and that's what I'll do in South Africa. Give them a piece of my country and get a piece of theirs."

Glin applied to the Peace Corps in 1995 and was assigned to go to the West African country of Guinea in July 1996. But financial problems prevented him from leaving then, and that's when his recruiter told him about the South African assignment.

As Glin was explaining how his personal history had been affected by South Africa's, Douglas walked up, and the two men, who had become pals over the telephone, embraced. "Great to meet you in person," Glin said.

Douglas initially had hoped to go to West Africa, where he believes his ancestors are from. But that didn't last long.

"My recruiter put a bug in my ear [about South Africa] . . . but that wasn't what I was interested in—until I really thought about the implications, the fact that I've watched the South African struggle my entire life, that I am an African American, that I went to see Nelson Mandela [in Atlanta] when he made his [1990] tour of the United States," Douglas said.

"I left [the recruiter's] office telling him I would think about it," Douglas said. "By the time I got in my car and was driving up [Interstate] 95, I realized what a monumental opportunity it would be . . . and I turned the car around and rushed back and asked him to nominate me. And I was accepted. I was overjoyed, because it means so much to me to go to a place that I have watched change and grow."

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To find out what Peace Corps volunteers are doing around the world, click on the above symbol on the front page of The Post's site on the World Wide Web at <http://www.washingtonpost.com>