## International Rugby Football Board

COMMITTEE OF HOME UNIONS

Balfron Hermitage Road Kenley Surrey CR2 5EB England

Hon. Secretary J.G.M. HART

Phone 01-660 6460

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2nd September, 1979

H.S.P.Monro, Esq,J.P.,D.L.,M.P.,
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State,
Department of Environment,
2 Marsham Street,
London SW1P 3EB.

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Dear Mr Monto,

Your letter of 1st September 1979 asks my Committee to reconsider, in the light of the Gleneagles Agreement, its invitation to the South African Barbarians Club to tour in Great Britain and Ireland in October.

72

The Gleneagles Agreement was made in June 1977. In the two years since then many changes have taken place in the organization and playing of Rugby Football in South Africa because, we believe, of the effectiveness of our policy of continuing contact.

The Constitution of the South African Rugby Board, the governing body of the Game in South Africa, is now non-racial; its development policy is non-racial; joint coaching courses have been conducted and are being conducted and facilities and opportunities for advancement in the Game are available for all players.

These are major changes in the situation since June 1977. The Gleneagles Agreement acknowledged that it was for each Government to determine in accordance with its laws the methods by which it might best discharge its commitments.

My Committee sees no reason why the Government should not exercise the discretion thus afforded to it by the Gleneagles Agreement in the light of the situation prevailing today. This is typified by the multi-racial nature of the Club side which has been invited.

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Flag A (your runtt) 'My Committee therefore stands by its invitation and feels justified in expecting the full support of the Government.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Presidents of the Home Rugby Unions. Perhaps you will kindly arrange for copies to be sent to the Chairmen of the Sports Councils, to whom you sent copies of your letter to me.

your sincerely, Amuart.

J.G.M.HART