

Mr Charles Powell.

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With the compliments of

THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

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~~Colin Budd's letter of
11 Oct 85 refers~~

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FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

SW1A 2AH

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

October 1985

Dear Colleague,

INFORMATION PACK: BRITISH POLICY TOWARDS SOUTH AFRICA

1. The Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary are concerned that every effort be made to present British policy towards South Africa in more positive terms. We have produced an "information pack" as part of our response and we hope that it may prove useful in putting this message across. One of these packs is included with this letter to enable you to identify the degree to which your department has any specific interest and so that you will be aware of the line we are taking.
2. We particularly need to get across how much Britain is already doing to promote peaceful change and the positive nature of much of British involvement in South Africa. So far, debate has tended to focus almost exclusively on the subject of economic sanctions. We need to ensure that British policy is seen in a wider perspective.
3. You will naturally wish to tailor the material for your particular audience. The note to Information Officers enclosed with the pack gives some guidance on its handling.

*Yours sincerely,
Tony Reeve*

A Reeve
Southern African Dept

TO BE REMOVED BEFORE ISSUE

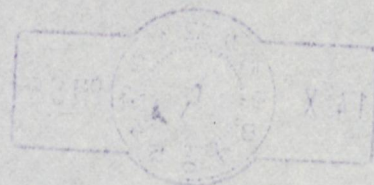
NOTE TO INFORMATION OFFICERS:

1. The material in this pack has been compiled as part of our effort to get the positive aspects of our South African policy better understood - particularly in the approach to and aftermath of CHOGM.

2. The basic statement on British policy towards South Africa sets out HMG's position. It is supported by two "positive" papers on British trade, and British assistance programmes in South Africa - and by two "negative" papers covering the case against sanctions, and restrictive measures we have taken in relation to South Africa.

3. The policy statement paper may be handed out quite freely. The other papers (with the exception of the sanctions paper) may also be used freely, although equally they may be used as a quarry from which you may draw in dealing with your contacts.

4. Greater care will be needed in the use of the sanctions paper (which includes our Annex setting out the dependence on South Africa of its neighbours). We do not wish to be thought to be arguing on the South Africans' behalf, and therefore we do not normally see this paper being handed out as it stands (even though not classified). It is designed primarily for use as a quarry for supporting arguments. The same caveat applies to the Annex except more so.



INFORMATION PACK:

BRITISH POLICY TOWARDS SOUTH AFRICA

Contents

1. Statement on British policy towards South Africa.
2. British trade and investment in South Africa.
3. British assistance programmes in southern Africa.
4. The case against sanctions - including an Annex on the economic dependence of South Africa's neighbours (for discreet use only).
5. Restrictive measures taken by Britain in relation to South Africa.

October 1985