DECLASSIFIED NLRRM 4534 455 (40) DEPARTMENT OF STATE BY (IV NARA DATE 7/3/1)

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

William P. Clark, Acting

U.S. Receives Criticism for South African Rugby Team. U.S. issued visas to the Springboks South African national rugby team. This group will first transit the U.S. enroute to New Zealand July 16 because Australia has refused them transit rights, and returns to the U.S. in September. Various governments which we encouraged to boycott the Moscow Olympics now argue that South Africa's racial policy and apartheid in sports are important issues to them and the U.S. is not being responsive to their views. Black Africa boycotted the 1976 Montreal Olympics in protest of a previous Springboks rugby tour of New Zealand. The Soviets may seize upon this issue to drive a wedge between the U.S. and the Africans if they are looking for a way to respond to our Mowcow Olympics boycott. The U.S. Olympic Committee and the private sector sponsors of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics are privately trying to persuade the USA Rugby Union that the issue is hard politics, not what we think about rugby or South Africa. (C)

- Stoessel Human Rights Testimony. Walt Stoessel appeared before the House Foreign Affairs Committee's Subcommittee on Human Rights to lay out our policy toward humanitarian concerns in foreign affairs. His statement was well received and eased some of the members' concerns. The question and answer session went well with the expected give and take on this Administration's stated areas of emphasis in approaching human rights issues. (U)
- Call by Yugoslav Ambassador Loncar. Yugoslav Ambassador Loncar called to seek views as to possible progress on Namibia. I told him no independent American plan exists, that we had always used Resolution 435 as the basis for our thinking, but that the passage of time and changed circumstances required some modification of 435. For his information only, there would be discussion at the Ministerial level in Ottawa, and we hoped soon to have full agreement of the Contact Group and to be able then to get back to those other governments also interested in fair elections and independence for Namibia. Loncar said that it was important for us to understand that while members of the Nonaligned Movement had differing views on many subjects, there was near unanimity on Namibia. Yugoslavia would like to see a Namibia solution with U.S. participation. Only the United States could eliminate the last obstacles to a solution, which lay within South Africa.