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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**REPORT**  
OF THE  
**DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL AND  
ENERGY AFFAIRS**  
INCLUDING  
**REPORTS OF**  
**THE GOVERNMENT MINING ENGINEER,**  
**THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY**  
AND  
**THE MINERALS BUREAU**  
FOR THE  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1989**

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latitude—in the near future, especially where it pertains to areas in the Witwatersrand and Heidelberg districts, therefore still appears to be problematic.

In the mining district of Pietersburg 9 block sheets, depicting the isolated farms Singelele 6 MT, Berkenrode 45 MT, Toynton 49 MT and Messina 4 MT, were prepared by the contracting company, Aircraft Operation Company (Pty) Limited, and put into use by this office and that of the mining commissioner concerned. With a view to curtailing expenditure, block sheets in respect of the farms Goedgenoeg 185 LS, situate in the mining district mentioned, Rusoord 261 JU, in the mining district of Barberton, and Jakhalskraal 239 KP and Schoongezicht 238 KP, both situate in the mining district of Pretoria, were prepared by and put into use in this office.

Limited progress has been made with the elimination of uncoordinated rights situate in the areas of the mining district of Johannesburg held under mining title by The Randfontein Estates Gold Mining Company Witwatersrand Limited, Libanon Gold Mining Company Limited and Venterspost Gold Mining Company Limited. The survey data with regard to only approximately 42 uncoordinated rights granted in terms of the mineral laws are required for the conversion of these areas.

### Statistics of rights registered

#### Transfers

Year	Number	Value (R)
1989	74	10 369 166
1988	70	7 057 829
1987	96	16 738 425

#### Bonds

Year	Number	Value (R)
1989	31	6 844 833
1988	26	5 151 954
1987	27	7 186 045

*Cancellations, cessions, substitutions of debtors, releases and part payments in respect of bonds*

Year	Number	Value (R)
1989	25	10 634 704
1988	17	2 964 380
1987	21	928 250

#### Servitudes and contracts

Year	Number
1989	4
1988	8
1987	2

#### Leases

Year	Mining leases	Prospecting leases
1989	6	16
1988	16	14
1987	3	19

*Prospecting contracts (reserved minerals, base minerals, natural oil and precious stones) and prospecting licences*

Year	Number
1989	214
1988	252
1987	265

*Owner's and discoverer's certificates in respect of precious stones in a mine, certificates of bezitrecht, surface right permits, water rights, stands (industrial, business and trading) and section 161 permits*

Year	Number
1989	501
1988	188
1987	182

*Powers of attorney, amendments, endorsements, lost title deeds and transfers of surface right permits in terms of section 90(9) of Act 20 of 1967*

Year	Number
1989	220
1988	77
1987	43

#### Miscellaneous (enquiries, etc.)

Year	Number
1989	184
1988	239
1987	200

#### Insolvencies

Year	Number
1989	5 891
1988	5 888
1987	9 004

## 5. OVERSEAS REPRESENTATION

The Department's overseas representatives (Counsellors/Consuls: Minerals and Energy), are attached to South Africa's diplomatic missions in Bonn, Canberra, London, Paris, Rio de Janeiro, Tokyo and Washington DC. Their main function is to assist the relevant heads of mission and advise them on mining, mineral and energy matters. Other duties include—

acting as intermediary on behalf of the various branches of the Department, its research organisations and other Government agencies in obtaining and providing them with technical and scientific information;

assessing foreign mineral and energy policy directions, market trends and economic developments in the countries to which they are accredited (in close collaboration with representatives of the Department of Trade and Industry, where appropriate) and keeping the South African mineral and energy industry fully informed; and

promoting the image of the Republic of South Africa—in particular that of the mineral and energy sector—establishing good relations and, in general, furthering the interests of South Africa.



*Bonn*—The Counsellor reports that the EEC Common Market, scheduled for 1992, will not only affect trade, energy uses and social conditions among the member states and neighbouring EFTA countries in Europe, but will inevitably also influence raw material production, trade and long-term energy usage in South Africa. Consequently, relevant trends, events and views in Europe were monitored, with special attention to raw material needs, in order to facilitate strategic planning in the RSA.

Data-gathering visits were undertaken to appropriate government agencies, research organisations and private enterprises in Austria, Finland, Norway, Sweden and West Germany. These excursions also served to promote the image of South Africa through the dissemination of literature on the RSA's minerals and energy, talks, interviews and the attending of congresses and symposia.

The year's highlight was the popular and informative display and video showings concerning South Africa's minerals at the International Mining, Metallurgical and Foundry Show held at Düsseldorf in May. The Counsellor dealt with 151 enquiries concerning South Africa's minerals.

A total of 75 visitors were received and detailed itineraries and appointments were arranged for many visitors to and from South Africa. Apart from Departmental institutions (Government Mining Engineer, Minerals Bureau, National Energy Council, Mintek), much time was devoted to the requirements of mining companies and organisations and research and academic institutions in South Africa and in West Germany. Assistance was rendered with the recruitment of scientists and engineers.

Twenty-five reports, covering many subjects, were completed.

*Canberra*—The Counsellor provided the Department with an ongoing intelligence service on the Australian minerals and energy economy; this information was also transmitted to the National Energy Council, Mintek and the South African mineral industry at large.

Contact was made and maintained with government departments in Australia, at both federal and state levels, organisations representing the mining industry, professional organisations concerned with and involved in mineral and energy matters, mining and research and academic institutions and private companies.

A number of conferences and seminars were attended in order to gain access to up-to-date information and awareness of current mineral-related trends in Australia. These dealt with the status of and outlook for gold and coal production, marketing and use in the Asia-Pacific region; industrial minerals in Australia; safety in coal mines; the promotion of renewable energy sources; and energy research and development.

Several mining and energy related projects were visited as part of the information-gathering process. These included gold mines, bauxite and alumina operations, a nickel smelter, an iron ore export terminal, a diamond mine, a natural gas liquefaction project and oil production areas.

Enquiries on mineral and energy related matters from both South Africa and Australia were dealt with on a continuous basis. Reports and memoranda on mineral and energy economic matters of current interest were prepared and submitted to interested parties. A mineral and energy "literature clippings service" was maintained, and copies of the clippings were widely distributed in South Africa.

An ongoing project was the promotion of South Africa's mineral industry and special emphasis was placed on its importance to the economy and the welfare of its people. In this regard a large number of South African publications from both official and private sources were disseminated.

*London*—Although the Counsellor's activities were concentrated mainly in the United Kingdom, official visits were also undertaken to Portugal, Spain, Greece and Israel.

The Counsellor paid special attention to the promotion of South Africa's image as a reliable supplier of mineral products of consistent quality. The distribution of literature published by the Minerals Bureau played an important role in this respect.

Keeping the South African mineral and energy industry informed of developments in the countries where the Counsellor is accredited constitutes a major activity of the London office. For this purpose information was gathered by way of regular contact (by means of correspondence and official visits) with government and research organisations, academic institutions and private undertakings.

Ten congresses and two exhibitions were attended during the year; these included a seminar on South Africa's coal industry as a potential market for British mining equipment, the Metals 2000 Conference, the USA/European Coal Congress in Lisbon, the annual meeting of the Standing Committee of the International Lead and Zinc Study Group, the Zinc Development Association Congress, a seminar on the privatisation of Britain's coal industry and the Coal Trans '89 Conference. In addition, the Counsellor regularly attended meetings of the British Institute of Energy, the Institute of Petroleum Energy Economics, the Association of Mining Analysts, the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, the London Diplomatic Science Club and the Royal Geographic Society.

Various requests for information on specific subjects received from the Minerals Bureau, Mintek, the National Energy Council, SOEKOR, the Government Mining Engineer, the Geological Survey, the Chamber of Mines and private mining companies were dealt with.

Twenty senior South African government officials and businessmen visiting the United Kingdom and Spain were assisted with arrangements for appointments and itineraries. Where required, the visitors were accompanied by the Counsellor. Assistance was also given to five British citizens visiting South Africa's mineral and energy industries.

*Paris*—During the year the Counsellor made twelve visits to Belgium, three to the Netherlands, two each to Luxembourg, Italy and England and one to Austria.

In France contact was maintained with mineral and energy organisations in the public and private sectors.



Technical visits included three coal mines (investigating technology with respect to rescue, safety and health), a uranium mine and an advanced direct current arc furnace.

In Belgium and Luxembourg discussions were held with EEC Commission officials concerned with minerals, energy, environment affairs and research and also mine rescue, safety and health matters. Important developments in the EEC during the year included the elections for the European Parliament, progress towards the 1992 Common Market, the decision concerning catalysts in automobiles, the mining policy paper and progress in reducing coal production subsidies.

In the Netherlands liaison was maintained with government officials and mineral and coal traders.

In Italy, discussions were held with representatives of government departments and organisations, traders and companies in the fields of minerals, energy, coal and ferro-alloys.

The 34th annual meeting of the UN International Lead and Zinc study group was attended in Austria. Liaison was maintained with international organisations such as GATT, UNCTAD and IEA.

Requests for information by the Minerals Bureau, the National Energy Council, the Government Mining Engineer, Mintek, the Chamber of Mines and mining groups were handled and routine reports were submitted.

Itineraries were arranged for a number of visitors from South Africa, including the Director-General of the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs, the Chief Executive of the National Energy Council, the Chief Director of the Minerals Bureau, members of the office of the Government Mining Engineer and Mintek, senior representatives of the South African coal mining industry and a medical officer from the Chamber of Mines investigating mine rescue methods.

Conferences attended by the Counsellor included Coal Trans '89, Oil and Money, Metal Bulletin's Ferro-alloys, World Clean Air, Industrie Minérale (the largest mining conference in France), Energy in the USSR, the Greenhouse Effect and Mineral Economics and Strategy. It is noteworthy how environmental issues are dominating many conferences which previously concentrated on marketing and technology.

*Rio de Janeiro*—During the past year the Consul spent the major portion of his time in Brazil. Close contact was maintained with the various sections of the Brazilian Department of Mines and Energy, state and private mining companies, research centres, statistics bureaux, universities and the mineral and energy related media. Official visits were made to various government departments, councils, universities and mines in Chile and Uruguay.

The promotion of South Africa's image in Latin America consisted of informing government officials, importers and the media of developments and highlights in South Africa's mineral and energy sectors and the distribution of large quantities of relevant literature. Many of these items were translated into Portuguese and Spanish and appeared in various publications.

News clippings on minerals and energy matters in

Latin America were supplied regularly and copies of publications and reports on iron ore exports, ferro-alloys production, accident statistics, the fuel alcohol programme and energy were forwarded to the Department and various South African organisations. A report on Chile's mineral industry, with projections, was also submitted.

The Consul arranged a visit to South Africa for a group of geology and mineral economics lecturers from Brazilian universities. Their visits to branches of the Department, Mintek, universities, mining operations and sites of unique geological features resulted in positive Brazilian press coverage.

The importance of South Africa as a trading partner evoked many local enquiries on minerals and construction possibilities for South African companies. Assistance with information and the arranging of appointments was provided for various visitors to South Africa. Assistance was also given to South Africans visiting Brazil (e.g. from the Geological Survey, private mining companies and Mintek) attending conferences and courses and a SAFTO group promoting South African mining equipment in Latin America.

Topics of conferences attended in Brazil by the Consul included the use of micro-computers in the mineral industry, prospects for the production of strategic minerals in Latin America and alternative sources of energy.

*Tokyo*—The activities of the Tokyo office included the handling of a large number of enquiries from both South African and Asian organisations. The Consul attended mineral and energy related conferences, liaised with South African mineral marketing officials on Far East demand trends for RSA mineral products, informed Japanese officials of the latest South African mineral and energy developments and reported to the Department on Asian energy developments and the pertinent mineral and metal supply and demand situation. In addition, he arranged itineraries for Asian visitors to South Africa.

The Consul made numerous visits to government mining and energy administrations, research institutes, trading concerns and mineral-consuming industrial companies in Japan.

A number of South African concerns were introduced to mineral-consuming industrial companies in Asian countries. The monthly newsletter, *South African News Items*, was distributed to over 30 Japanese companies on a regular basis and *Asian News Items* was distributed to over 20 South African organisations every month. Close contact was maintained with the mineral resources, energy and scientific representatives of several embassies in Japan.

Fifteen reports were compiled for the Department, the National Energy Council, Mintek, the Chamber of Mines and various mining companies. Five conferences were attended. These included the 6th Platinum Seminar, the ROC-RSA Economic and Technical Cooperation Conference, the MMIJ-IMM Joint Symposium, the ICCS Coal Science Conference and the International Gas Research Conference.

Eleven visits were made to other Asian countries. These consisted of three visits to Hong Kong, two visits



each to Taiwan, Thailand and Singapore and single visits to South Korea and Sri Lanka. About 210 company visits in seven countries were made during the year for the acquisition and dissemination of information.

Discussions were held with 25 visiting South African mineral marketing representatives. Itineraries were prepared for three CSIR officials visiting Singapore and for officials of three companies who visited South Africa to acquaint themselves with the RSA's mining technology.

Visits were also paid to steelworks, coal research centres and coal bulk terminals in Japan and to marble processing plants in Taiwan and oil-fired power stations in Hong Kong, Thailand and Sri Lanka.

*Washington DC*—A highlight of the Counsellor's activities was the South African Geological Society's exhibit at the 28th International Geological Congress, held in July 1989 in Washington. The quality of the exhibit attracted many interested parties among the international and US delegates.

A number of visitors from South Africa to the USA were assisted with appointments and itineraries. These people represented the Government Mining Engineer, the Geological Survey, Mintek, the Development Bank of Southern Africa, Eskom, the Division of Energy Technology of the CSIR, mining houses and ferro-alloy

producers. Many analysts from stockbrokers, financial organisations and the technical news media also visited his office.

The Counsellor was the guest speaker at the Annual General Meetings of the Washington and St Louis branches of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers.

Ten conferences were attended, five of which dealt with energy-related subjects. In addition, regular meetings of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, National Economist Club, Capital Metals Forum, Scientific Counsellors Club, American Bar Association and Copper and Precious Metals Workshops were attended.

Visits were made to the Bureau of Mines Research Center in Spokane, which concentrates on hard-rock mining, rock burst detection and prevention technology; the Mine Safety and Health Organisation's Test Center in Pittsburgh; a ferro-alloy plant; and a steelworks. An underground tour was undertaken of the Lucky Friday mine, notorious for the prevalence of rock bursts.

Requests for information from organisations in the USA and South Africa were received on an ongoing basis. The quantity and variety of material sent to recipients in South Africa increased greatly throughout the year.