Director Abdul S Minty

PO Box 2 Lindeberg Gaard Oslo 10 Norway Tel (02) 30 13 45 Cables Antiapartheid Oslo Telex 72314 AAM N

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SOUTH AFRICA'S NEIGHBOURS FEEL THREATENED BY SUBMARINE SALE

Zambian politician sees immediate danger to security of Frontline States/ Also SPD will continue committee work

By our correspondent Helmut Lölhöffel

Bonn, February 9th. - The Greens consider it a confirmed matter that the Office of the Chancellor gave in 1984/85 the "green light" for the submarine deal with South Africa. The parliamentarian Uschi Eid, spokeswoman of her faction in the investigation committee of the Federal Parliament which has not yet concluded the hearing of witnesses, said on Monday in Bonn that according to "the situation of documented records" it was possible to prove that teamwork between the Office of the Chancellor and the supplying firms (the shipyard Howaldtswerft in Kiel and the Ingenieurkontor Lübeck) had taken place. Some of the meetings between the firms' representatives and the chancellor's advisor Horst Teltschik had served the purpose, as Ms. Eid stated, "to work out how the deal could be implemented and organized".

The faction of the Greens conducted a "public expert discussion" about the military cooperation between the Federal Republic of Germany and South Africa at the Bundeshaus (parliament building). Fenwick Chifunda, a secretary of the Zambian united party, said that the government of his country was "dismayed" about the delivery of construction plans for submarines by state-controlled West-German firms to South Africa. "We were extremely confused and are deeply perplexed about the fact that this deal violates not only resolutions of the United Nations but also the German laws".

"We in Southern Africa are the victims of such collaboration", the representative of Zambia said. The purchase of the submarine plans signified an immediate threat to the "frontline states" bordering on South Africa.

The director of the "World Campaign against Military and Nuclear Collaboration with South Africa" with seat in Oslo, Abdul S. Minty, spoke of the "shock" which the German-South African submarine deal had evoked internationally. He had heard this from several African politicians, but also from statesmen of the Non-Aligned Movement, Minty said. He expected that those responsible for the illegal submarine deal would be called to account after conclusion of the parliamentary investigation. What the investigation committee so far discovered had a "scandalous dimension".

The head of the World Campaign, founded in 1979, reported that South Africa had already used submarines for attacks against Angola and Mozambique. With the aid of submarines it was possible for the South Africans to break, for instance, sea blockades, in case they had to be enforced for the implementation of international economic sanctions. Minty, who in the next days will also have discussions with the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with the SPD in Bonn, said the international reputation of the Federal Republic of Germany had already suffered due to this affair.

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Professor Ulrich Albrecht of the Institute for International Politics of the Free University in Berlin described the manifold possibilities by which military and electronic material can be delivered to foreign countries today. The possibilities of control were small. He proposed to change the Act for the Control of War Weapons and the Foreign Trade Act in such a way as to impede the concealing of the true contents of such shipments and the by-passing of valid laws.

The "Frankfurter Rundschau" is in possession of information according to which the South Africans approached West-German offices for the first time already in 1982 in order to prepare the way for the submarine deal. In the seventies, South Africa bought submarines from France. But following the arms embargo resolution of the United Nations France was no longer willing to deliver. Whereupon the purchasers put their feelers out to the Federal Republic of Germany. In the end the South Africans found business partners and political goodwill for their intentions in Kiel, Lübeck and Bonn.

The SPD resolved internally to raise again the issue of parliamentarian investigation of the submarine affair in the next Federal Parliament (constituting itself on February 18th, 1987. Transl.). This makes it as much as certain that the investigation committee will be constituted anew. For some time it had been considered to conclude the hearing of witnesses already before the end of the current period of legislation on February 17th. Since the chairmanship of the committee is likely to go to the CDU in the new Federal Parliament (at present Willfried Penner of the SPD chairs the committee), deliberations are underway to propose in that event the SPD parliamentarian Peter Struck for the position of deputy chairman.

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FRG SUBMARINE PLANS FOR SOUTH AFRICA

South African Press Reports

The Star, Johannesburg, 21 January 1987

FRG & Arms Embargo

P W Botha made a personal appeal to West German Chancellor Mr Helmut Kohl to help SA acquire German submarines, a Bonn parliamentary inquiry panel has been told. Mr Botha told Mr Kohl at a Bonn meeting in June 1984 that SA needed the submarines to improve its coastal sevurity, the Chancellor's close adviser, Mr Horst Teltschik, told the panel. Mr Botha had disclosed that SA was negotiating a submarine project with a Lubeck engineering agency which was acting on behalf of the Howaldtswerke shipyard of Kiel. The negotiations could proceed only with official govt approval, Mr Botha told Mr Kohl. The Chancellor said he would study the matter and passed it on to Mr Teltschild and the chief of the Bonn Chancellery, the panel was told. Mr Teltschik said that, in the following January, he told the executive directors of the Lubeck agency and of the Howaldtswerke shippard that the govt could not approve the proposed deal with SA. Later, he learnt that blueprints of an advanced German submarine had been delivered to SA as early as the previous October. He said he could not confirm reports that the blueprints, on microfilm, had been Star 21.1.87 sent to SA by diplomatic bag ...

Business Day, Johannesburg, 26 January 1987

Bonn okayed sale of sub plans

HARARE - The West German government gave permission to Kiel-based companies HDW and IKL to export blueprints for submarines to the SA government, the "developments about this case and Oslo-based World Campaign Against Military and Nuclear Collaboration with SA said.

The organisation sent a cable, a copy of which was made available to Zimbabwe's semi-official news agency Ziana, to Chancellor Helmut Kohl at the weekend, in which it said; "We were shocked to learn in November 1986 that blueprints for submarines had been illegally supplied by two firms, HDW and IKL based in Kiel to SA."

... The cable, signed by World Campaign director Abdul Minty, said its investigations, which began in November 1986 when it cabled the

German Foreign Minister, had reevealed President PW Botha had asked Kohl permission for the deal.

"We have since tried to follow : are deeply shocked to learn it was during your meeting with Mr Botha on June 5, 1984, that he made a personal request for export permission to be granted for the submarine blueprints, and that 10 days later the two firms signed the illegal contract and subsequently illegally exported the blueprints via the diplomatic pouch of the SA mission in Bonn," the cable said.

"We are amazed that the illegal: transaction was negotiated and completed by HDW, a State-owned enterprise, and that the blueprints : are apparently a modification of ones originally prepared and paid

for by another government which, i if it were aware, would have op-2 posed and condemned its subsequent illegal transfer to the apartheid regime," the cable added.

... Minty said the cable was being: sent to request Bonn to prosecute the offenders for breaching thed "solemn: and mandatory armses embargo decision of the Security Council, adopted with the full support of West Germany, which was then a member of the council".

World Campaign asked that the two firms be required to make public all their agreements and arrangements with SA so that it would be known if the deal involved only the blueprints or included provision of know-how, experts, components and equipment for the con; struction of submarines. - Sapa.