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MEHORANDUM

Tilden J. LeMelle, Chairman Jennifer Davis, Executive Director

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Mike Fleshman DATE: July 31, 1991

SUBJECT: U.S. Aid To South Africa

The US Agency for International Development has come up with a new proposal to spend last year's supplemental Congressional appropriation of \$10 million to "support democracy in South Africa." The money was never spent because of opposition by North Carolina Senator Jesse Helms to the nearly \$3 million originally earmarked for the ANC, as against \$1 million for Inkatha. The balance of the money was to be divided among IDASA, the Get Ahead Foundation and some U.S.-based groups through the National Endowment for Democracy (NED).

The new proposal would divide up the money as follows:

ANC -- \$4.5 million; Inkatha -- \$2.5 million; SA Council of Churches -- \$1 million US Information Agency -- \$1 million NED -- \$1 million

Helms has reportedly signed off on this new division. The Burton Amendment prohibiting US funds to organizations "affiliated" to a communist party would not apply in this case, as the appropriation preceded passage of the Burton Amendment. Inkatha seems likely to escape another amendment that prohibits U.S. funding for organizations receiving SA government funds -- not because there is any doubt that Buthelezi is the recipient of such funds, but because the amendment is being relaxed anyway to permit U.S. government funding for health and education projects in South Africa, many of which are part of the government social service system.

In other news, a non-binding Sense of Congress Amendment urging "diplomatic action" by the United States to secure the release of remaining South African political prisoners was successfully attached to the State Department Authorization bill on July 29. It was co-sponsored by Democrat Paul Levin and Republican Nanoy Kassebaum.