March 30, 1960
Letter, South African Department of Foreign Affairs, Informing the United States of South Africa's Intent to Request Nuclear Materials

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Summary:
P. H. Philip of the South African Department of Foreign Affairs writes to the US Ambassador to South Africa informing him that South Africa will formally apply to the United States Atomic Energy Commission by June 1st 1960 for nuclear materials, pursuant to the bilateral trade agreement between the US and the Union of South Africa.

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It is understood that both the foregoing
requests must be made to the United States Atomic Energy
Commission before the 1st June, 1958. Moreover, as you
will observe, it will probably be necessary for the
details to be discussed with Dr. Roux, when he visits
the United States at the end of May. Accordingly it
would be appreciated if you could make the
necessary representations in this regard at your
earliest convenience.

The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the Union of South Africa,
WASHINGTON.

Enriched Uranium from the U.S.A.E.C.

As you are aware, Paragraph A of Article VIII
of the Agreement for Co-operation between the Governments
of the United States of America and the Union of South
Africa Concerning the Civil Uses of Atomic Energy, signed
at Washington on the 8th July, 1957, provides that:

"The United States Commission will sell to the
Government of the Union of South Africa uranium
enriched up to 20% in the isotope U235, except as
otherwise stated in paragraph C of this article ..."

Paragraph C of Article VIII further states that:

"The United States Commission may, upon request
and in its discretion, make a portion of the fore-
going special nuclear material available as
material enriched up to 90% for use in a materials
testing reactor...."

The Union's Atomic Energy Board now wishes
to make formal application in terms of the abovementioned
provisions to the United States Atomic Energy Commission
to arrange for special nuclear material enriched up to
90% in U235 to be made available to the Board for use in
a research reactor to be owned and operated by the Board.
It is proposed to negotiate the quantities and details
of supply during the visit of the Board's Research
Director, Dr. A.J.A. Roux, to Washington in June of
this year.

It is also understood that the United States
Atomic Energy Commission will make available to countries
who have signed bilateral agreements with the U.S.A.,
limited amounts of Plutonium-239 for research purposes.
The Board wishes to obtain official confirmation that
this is the case and, if so, to ascertain whether the
United States Commission will be prepared to make
available to the Board the maximum allowable quantity
of Plutonium-239.

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It is understood that both the foregoing requests must be made to the United States Atomic Energy Commission before the 1st June, 1960. Moreover, as you will observe, it will probably be necessary for the details to be discussed with Dr. Roux, when he visits the United States at the end of May. It would accordingly be appreciated if you could make the necessary representations in this regard at your earliest convenience.

The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of South Africa,

WASHINGTON.

Parlied Uranium Co. P. H. Philip E.C.
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

As you are aware, Paragraph 4 of Article VIII of the Agreement for Co-operation between the Governments of the United States of America and the Union of South Africa Concerning the Civil Uses of Atomic Energy, signed at Washington on the 8th July, 1957, provides that:

THE DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN : ATOMIC ENERGY BOARD.

... shall be available to the Government of the Union of South Africa uranium otherwise stated in paragraph 4 of Article ...

Paragraph 5 of Article VIII further states that:

"The United States Commission may, upon request and in its discretion, make a portion of the foregoing special nuclear material available on a material exchange basis as an enrichment service.

W. MALAN
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

WM/CG

The Union's atomic energy board now wishes to make formal application in terms of the aforementioned provisions to the United States Atomic Energy Commission to receive any special nuclear material enriched up to 20% in U-235 as is made available to the Board for use in a research reactor to be owned and operated by the Board. It is proposed to negotiate the quantities and details of terms during the visit of the Board's Research Director, Mr. J. P. Roux, to Washington in June of 1960."

The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America.