

DEL MONTE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the increasing involvement of corporations in the Republic of South Africa is a matter of public concern in Congress, the California Legislature, California state public employee retirement systems, the University of California, state and local governments, private universities, churches, union, community organizations and institutional investors;

WHEREAS, since June 1976, the killing of hundreds of people, mass arrests and widespread repression have been the response of the government in South Africa;

WHEREAS, apartheid legalizes racial discrimination depriving the African majority basic human rights, e.g. Africans cannot vote, cannot bargain collectively, must live in racially segregated areas, are paid grossly discriminatory wages, are assigned 13% of the land while 87% is reserved for the white minority;

WHEREAS, a January 1978 U.S. Senate Subcommittee report found that, "...collectively, U.S. corporations operating in South Africa have made no significant impact on either relaxing apartheid or in establishing company policies which would offer a limited but nevertheless important model of multinational responsibility" and "...the net effect of American investments has been to strengthen the economic and military self-sufficiency of South Africa's apartheid regime, undermining the fundamental goals and objectives of U.S. foreign policy.";

WHEREAS, it is this shareholder's belief that expansion of American investments in South Africa would further strengthen and morally and financially support the apartheid regime at a time when it is under severe economic and political stress;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the shareholder requests the Board to establish the following as the policy of this corporation:

The Corporation shall not directly, or through its subsidiary, expand its operations within South Africa unless and until the South African government commits itself to ending the legally enforced form of racism called apartheid and takes meaningful steps toward the achievement of full political, legal and social rights for the majority population.

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SUPPORTING STATEMENT

As Consultant to the Senate Select Committee on Investment Priorities and Objectives of the California Legislature, this shareholder has found that corporations have profited by operating in South Africa while paying its non-white employees subsistent wages. Corporations have found it convenient to hide behind South African law and custom by refusing to release nonproprietary information to shareholders, while adopting meaningless policies which are supported by the South African government to supposedly eliminate "workplace" discrimination. Such policies, however, do not include the recognition of African trade unions, nor will they have any impact on the fundamental structure of apartheid. In other words, corporations can continue to reap handsome profits in South Africa at the expense of its non-white majority while maintaining a "good corporate citizen" image at home.

In 1975, agricultural production in South Africa was worth \$2.4 billion. In 1972, agriculture's share of exports totaled almost 40%. Agriculture is a critical sector of South Africa's economy. I believe that any corporate expansion will directly strengthen the white dictatorship by increasing the payment of taxes, product sales, and the earnings of vital foreign exchange. Such foreign exchange allows the government to finance strategic imports important for the perpetuation of apartheid.