

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

29 December, 1976.

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Des Bor,

Thank you for your letter of 15 December about reports that Barclays National Bank of South Africa have invested some £6,500,000 in South African Defence Bonds.

As I said in the House of Commons on 16 December, this is a subject on which I would look to Barclays Bank to show a considerable degree of sensitivity to public opinion in this country. You will have seen public statements by Barclays Bank officials both here and in South Africa. We are working to establish fully the facts of the case, and Ted Rowlands, the Minister responsible in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, has invited Barclays Bank to discuss the matter with him early in the New Year.

Robert Hughes, Esq., M.P.