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*Print Answer
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FOR HUMFREY, SAFD, FROM LEWIS

COMMONWEALTH ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH SA

1. WE GIVE BELOW, AS BEST WE CAN, ANSWERS TO YOUR QUERIES ABOUT ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN SA AND COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES:

(A) AIR SERVICES: THE FOLLOWING AIRLINES HAVE AGREEMENTS TO OPERATE SERVICES IN POOL WITH SA AIRWAYS: AIR BOTSWANA, AIR MALAWI, AIR MAURITIUS, AIR ZIMBABWE, LESOTHO AIRWAYS, ROYAL SWAZI NATIONAL AIRWAYS, ZAMBIA AIRWAYS. SA ALSO HAS AN AGREEMENT TO TRAIN AIR ZIMBABWE CREW IN FLIGHT SIMULATOR TRAINING.

(B) KRUGERRANDS: NO FIGURES ARE RELEASED FOR SALES OF KRUGERRANDS TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES. HOWEVER IT IS KNOWN THAT THE BULK OF KRUGERRAND SALES HAVE TRADITIONALLY GONE TO THE USA (SOME TWO THIRDS OF SALES WORLDWIDE) AND THE FAR EAST. SALES TO THE USA FOR THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF THIS YEAR ARE ESTIMATED TO HAVE BEEN WORTH 80 MILLION US DOLLARS (CONSIDERABLY DOWN COMPARED WITH SALES FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR WHICH AMOUNTED TO 480 MILLION US DOLLARS), AND THE US GOVERNMENT HAVE NOW OF COURSE, STOPPED KRUGERRAND SALES, AS HAS AUSTRALIA. SALES TO THE NEW COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES ARE LIKELY THEREFORE TO BE MINIMAL.

(C) TRADE FIGURES: AGAIN THE SA AUTHORITIES DO NOT PUBLISH TRADE FIGURES FOR ALL INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES. FIGURES FOR AFRICA AND ASIA ARE GIVEN FOR THE CONTINENTS AS A WHOLE. NEVERTHELESS, WE HAVE LISTED BELOW THE LATEST FIGURES AVAILABLE, AS BEST WE CAN. THESE ARE THE TOTALS FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY-MAY 1985, IN RAND TERMS (FIGURES IN BRACKETS ARE FOR THE SAME PERIOD IN 1984, TO SHOW RECENT CHANGES):

1. IMPORTS FROM SA:

AFRICA	693,563,833	(360,773,852)
ASIA	2,101,757,347	(1,146,911,600)
SRI LANKA	11,302,775	(8,968,758)
CYPRUS	503,373	(180,799)
MALTA	2,352,623	(N/A)
CANADA	73,700,315	(58,676,024)
AUSTRALIA	77,603,866	(75,424,955)
NEW ZEALAND	5,527,670	(3,954,286)

AUSTRALIA	77,603,866	(75,424,955)
NEW ZEALAND	5,527,670	(3,954,296)
UK	819,484,442	(464,413,432)
11. EXPORTS TO SA:		
AFRICA	161,075,697	(160,884,351)
ASIA	1,306,223,502	(1,532,784,828)
SRI LANKA	9,391,164	(11,338,327)
CYPRUS	31,147	(30,254)
MALTA	193,914	(248,082)
CANADA	101,168,120	(78,438,231)
AUSTRALIA	115,778,976	(73,037,610)
NEW ZEALAND	9,844,206	(9,646,219)
UK	1,080,696,236	(914,239,141)

2. THE SIGNIFICANT POINT ABOUT TRADE FIGURES IS THAT IN ALMOST ALL CASES, THERE HAVE BEEN SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN IMPORTS FROM SA. IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1985 THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES AS A WHOLE ALMOST DOUBLED THEIR IMPORTS FROM SA.

3. SA ALSO HAS BILATERAL PREFERENTIAL TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH BOTH ZIMBABWE (RENEWED AFTER INDEPENDENCE) AND MALAWI. THE FORMER COVERS MAINLY EXPORTS OF FURNITURE, TEXTILES, FOODSTUFFS, TOBACCO AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE FROM ZIMBABWE. THE LATTER IS LESS EXTENSIVE AND COVERS LIVESTOCK, CEREALS, GROUND NUTS, RICE, TOBACCO, WOOD, AND SOME CLOTHING AND SHOES FROM MALAWI.

4. SA MAINTAINS AGREEMENTS WITH SRI LANKA AND MAURITIUS FOR THE PURCHASE OF TEA, WHEREBY SA AGREES TO BUY A CERTAIN FIXED PERCENTAGE OF PRODUCTION IN BOTH COUNTRIES. UNDER THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT WITH SRI LANKA, THE MAJOR OF THE TWO, SA IMPORTED 11.4 MILLION RANDS WORTH OF TEA IN 1983, AND 25.4 MILLION RANDS WORTH IN 1984.

5. THE ONLY OTHER READILY AVAILABLE INFORMATION WE HAVE CONCERNING TRADING ARRANGEMENTS (INCLUDING TRANSPORT, ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, AND CUSTOMS UNION RECEIPTS) HAVE ALREADY BEEN SUPPLIED TO YOU, AND WERE USED IN THE REPORT ON 'ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN SA AND THE NEIGHBOURING STATES' WHICH YOU RECENTLY SENT TO US.

MOBERLY

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POHPAN 1624

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