The Anti-Apartheid Movement

Euston 5786.
February 22nd, 1962

Memo on the South Africa Bill

We suggest it would be worth approaching in particular the following Members of Parliament to urge them to oppose the Bill:

HUMPHREY BERKELEY  JOAN VICKERS
CHRISTOPHER CHATAWAY  S. JOHNSON SMITH
JULIAN CRITCHLEY  MAJOR PATRICK WALL
NIGEL FISHER  RODERICK BOWEN
RICHARD HORNBY  DONALD WADE
CHARLES LONGFITTOM

The accompanying analysis of the South Africa Bill should help you in assessing its provisions but the two points we suggest as the strongest criticisms for the purposes of the Lobby are:

1. That the system of Commonwealth Preferences - worth some £51 million annually to South Africa - remains unchanged.
   This a) devalues the worth of Commonwealth membership; and
   b) means that South Africa does not suffer financially through leaving the Commonwealth.

   The Anti-Apartheid Movement demands the complete political and economic isolation of South Africa as the only means we have of helping to bring about the end of apartheid.

2. The Bill assumes throughout that the mandated territory of South West Africa is part of the Republic of South Africa - this is in the face of repeated U.N. demands for the return of South West Africa to International Trusteeship - an issue now actually before the International Court of Justice.

   The Anti-Apartheid Movement stands for the immediate withdrawal of the mandate from South Africa and freedom for the peoples of South West Africa.

   The Anti-Apartheid Movement demands also a ban on all arms supplies and military aid in any form to the present South African Government - which plans to use such aid against the African peoples. The cessation of military aid need not of course be a consequence of South Africa's withdrawal from the Commonwealth but it probably the most important demand we can make in the present situation of intensive 'defence' arrangements in South Africa.