

November 16, 1994

**South African Department of Foreign Affairs,
'Cameron Commission: Implications of Publishing
Country Classifications and Details of Arms
Transactions'**

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Summary:

Report on the Cameron Commission recommending that partners in arms dealings should remain secret.

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CLASSIFICATION : SECRET
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TO : THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, ROUTE DIRG
THROUGH : MR FH LAND, ROUTE HDPA
FROM : G SHILL, ROUTE MA811
JP DU PREEZ, ROUTE MA801
DATE : 16 NOVEMBER 1994
STATUS : FOR YOUR APPROVAL PLEASE
SUBJECT : CAMERON COMMISSION: IMPLICATIONS OF
PUBLISHING COUNTRY CLASSIFICATIONS AND
DETAILS OF ARMS TRANSACTIONS

1. As you are aware, the Cameron Commission is of the view that the entire hearing should be conducted in the open.
2. The legal representatives of Armscor and the SANDF are to bring in camera applications before the Commission next Tuesday (22 November) requesting ad hoc in camera proceedings. The decision to postpone the applications is, inter alia, in light of Adv Kruger's argument on Tuesday (15 November) on behalf of the Department, that the Commission should only make a decision in the above regard once Cabinet has reviewed and made a decision in respect of the Department's submission recommending that the classifications should not be published.
3. Besides investigating only the Lebanese deal, the Commission, according to its Terms of Reference, has also been requested to look into other transactions relating to arms components and related material from 2 February 1990 to date, and to subsequently comment on the appropriateness of South Africa's current trade policy with regard to weapons and components as well as the decision-making processes with regard to such trade. Armscor has in its possession, a report on all arms transactions covering this period. If the Commission succeeds in having the entire hearing conducted in the open, Armscor will be obliged to produce the report.
4. As you are aware, the UN arms embargo against South Africa was only lifted on 25 May 1994. Notwithstanding, approximately 80 countries were trading in arms with South Africa during the embargo. The following notable statistics were pulled from the report which has been divided by continent for the Department's benefit:

4.1 Europe

Romania, Turkey, U.K., Switzerland, Portugal, Estonia, Russian Federation, Austria, Belgium, Germany, France, Luxembourg, Bulgaria, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Sweden

Romania is prominent as well as the U.K., Switzerland and Turkey.

Total: R132 355 779.

4.2 Africa

Rwanda, Somalia, Angola, Mozambique, Morocco, Sudan, Zaire, Swaziland, Ivory Coast, Malawi, Namibia, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Togo, Egypt, Botswana, Congo, Ghana, Mauritius, Zambia, Nigeria, Ghana, Cameroon (after embargo lifted)

Rwanda is most prominent until February 1993, Swaziland is prominent throughout the period. Transactions were also completed with the TBVC countries and several self-governing homelands which have not been listed above.

Total: R163 260 395

4.3 Americas

Chile, Colombia, U.S.A., Peru, Argentina, Ecuador, Guatemala, Brazil, Mexico, Fidji, Panama, Canada (after embargo lifted)

Colombia is the most prominent followed by Chile. The U.S.A. appears 12 times on the list, most of its purchases being single pistols and ammunition as well as one impala aircraft.

Total: R420 917 130

4.4 Far East

Taiwan, Pakistan, Singapore, Australia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Myanmar, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Hong Kong, Malaysia, PRC, Brunei (after embargo lifted), Maldives (after embargo lifted), New Zealand (after embargo lifted)

Taiwan is the most prominent country followed by Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Total: R711 978 102

4.5 Middle East

United Arab Emirates, Iraq (only one transaction in June 1990), Israel, Oman, Lebanon (CM) Jordan (after embargo lifted), Lebanon (Official Govt) (August 1994) (after embargo lifted), Cyprus (after embargo lifted)

Israel is most prominent followed by the United Arab Emirates.

Total: R659 146 235

Several countries, some of which are listed above, received products for demonstration purposes only. The products were returned to South Africa and are consequently shown in the report as having "zero" value.

5. The Sub-Directorate: Arms Control is of the view that the Deputy Directors General and Chief Directors be alerted to the fact that the country classifications as well as the report on arms transactions for the period 1990 to date, could be published by the Commission. We furthermore recommend that the bilateral desks be requested to do an assessment of the likely implications on bilateral relations should the classifications and report be published. This feedback will be for internal use only and will not be used as evidence during the Commission's hearing unless the Department is requested otherwise.

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16 November 1994

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IAEA: DRAFT OF THE NUSS QUALITY ASSURANCE DOCUMENTS: THIRD PACKAGE

Documentation:

- a. A draft of the NUSS (Nuclear Safety Standards) Quality Assurance documents: Third Package.

Enclosed for your attention, please find two copies of the abovementioned documentation.

Copies of these documents were sent to the AEC, CNS, Eskom and Department of Health.

It would be appreciated if comments on this third package be received by this Department before 20 April 1995.

Your assistance in this regard will be highly appreciated.

THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Ref : 137/10/23
137/34/1
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Annexure I

Arm Scor's views on the results of the interdepartmental meeting.

QUOTE

The moment that countries who were till now regular customers of the RSA Defence Industry suspect that their "status" may change overnight because of political or the RSA's perception of international concerns, will cause such countries to be extremely suspicious of the RSA Government's future actions.

Many contracts exist which explicitly forbid the disclosure of its existence or contents and industry might thus be faced with possible cancellation as well as the withholding of performance bonds, bank guarantees or even paying heavy penalty to such contractual clauses. Such unilateral actions by the Commission may thus result in it being sued by Industry for losses in this regard. The Commission must thus take cognisance of this fact as it is acting on instruction of the Government.

SA is at the present moment experiencing tremendous goodwill from the international community. By disclosing country classifications and detail export transactions might have an effect on this and jeopardise Government's initiatives in attracting investments and financial aid for the RDP.

The disclosure of country classifications will have a definite impact on commercial trade relations and private ventures of private industry for e.g. Libya - Spornet and Iran - oil, trade etc.

The RSA might face expulsion of various of its representatives in countries taking exception to its classification i.e.

- SANDF wrt Military Attaches
- DTI wrt Trade Counsellors
- Foreign Affairs wrt diplomats
- Arm Scor wrt its own representatives in the UEA and Malaysia.

Countries buying arms from the RSA might take retaliatory steps against their own citizens once it becomes known that they were responsible for breaking UNSC sanctions against the RSA. Such people's lives may be in danger.

Some of the super powers, especially the USA might start pressuring the RSA supporters to withdraw or to stop their military related negotiations with the RSA. Financial and political blackmail might also be widened - especially with the USA's involvement.

Log 17 Pam 19 (Annexure A) is no longer valid. By disclosing it the Commission will create the impression that the classifications contained therein are those of the previous regime, but still accepted and supported by the current Government - Annexure A of Log 17 have not been updated for nearly a year now and numerous countries have since been reclassified.

A submission will serve before the Cabinet round about the end of November '94 with the new recommendations as approved by the EFPC on 4/11/94. One of FA's recommendations is that this list of classifications be kept classified and may not be disclosed to industry, the public or the international community.

UNQUOTE