

COMMITTEES

ENERGY AND COMMERCE

INTERIOR AND INSULAR
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CHAIRMAN

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND INVESTIGATIONS

COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND
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January 25, 1985

The Honorable Nunzio Palladino
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Chairman Palladino:

Information has come to my attention that a number of U.S. citizens formerly employed as nuclear reactor operators by the Tennessee Valley Authority and by other private utilities may now be or may previously have been employed in similar capacities in South Africa by the Electricity Supply Commission of South Africa (ESCOM). I understand that these individuals do not have the specific authorization of the Secretary of Energy required to engage legally in these activities. If true, this raises serious questions as to whether they are in violation of Section 57(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 as amended. As you know, a violation of Section 57 of that Act is a crime subject to imprisonment of up to 10 years or a fine of up to \$10,000 or both.

I am concerned that officials of the United States government may have known of the activities of these U.S. citizens in South Africa for as long as a year but failed to take action to correct this situation.

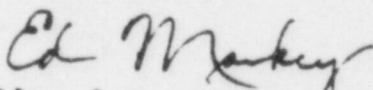
I request that you provide me with complete information about your knowledge of or that of any other officials of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission relating to activities by U.S. citizens in South Africa which are subject to Section 57(b). Please specify when both you or any other official of the Commission first became aware of the situation, how you were made aware of the situation and what actions were taken in response and when.

In addition, please provide copies, classified or otherwise, of all the following: 1) all cables, communications, and documents or any other exchanges between the NRC and the U.S. Embassy in South Africa or between the United States government and the government of South Africa regarding U.S. citizens providing technical assistance to ESCOM or to any other part of the nuclear power program in South Africa; 2) all letters, documents or other communications between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and U.S. citizens regarding activities in South Africa;

and 3) all documents, records, notes, letters, correspondence, memoranda, telephone records and logs, briefing and position papers, or any other document regarding communications within or between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Department of State, the Justice Department, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Department of Energy, or the White House on this issue.

Because of the serious nature of this matter your immediate response to this request is desired.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ed Markey".

Edward J. Markey
Member of Congress