

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

1984 MAR -6 AM 11: 23 WASHINGTON

March 2, 1984

Dear Paul:

Thank you for your letter of February 8 regarding the Massachusetts Port Authority seminar in Boston.

Clearly, we appreciate and have been stressing the importance of strengthening the private sector in African economies. The Economic Policy Initiative and other efforts we have made are testimony to that. I am grateful, therefore, for the invitation to speak before the Port Authority. Unfortunately, the pace of events in Africa and my frequent travel there make it impossible for me to make the address at this time. I have asked Mr. Richard Bogosian, an experienced Africa hand who is Office Director for East African Affairs, to represent me.

Thank you again for your interest. I hope the seminar is a great success.

Sincerely,

Chester A. Crocker

The Honorable Paul E. Tsongas, United States Senate, Washington, D.C.