

For the immediate future, however, it would appear that foreign wine interests should consider contacting and working through one of the established commercial agents in South Africa who knows how to work his or her way through the maze of import regulations and necessary paper work.

For more complete information than contained in this report, a starting point for anyone interested in doing business with South Africa would be to contact the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agriculture Service, Africa Desk, Washington, D.C. (Paul Hoffman, Africa Area Officer); and for current market information, contact the Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Trade Assistance and Promotion Office, Washington, D.C.; or contact directly the U.S. Foreign Agricultural Service in Pretoria, South Africa. Additional information can be obtained by contacting the U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, South Africa Desk, Washington, D.C., (office Industry Specialist for the Alcohol beverage industry is Donald Hodges); and the U.S. Trade Information Center for current commercial and economic information regarding South Africa.

South Africa is a signatory to the Tokyo Round Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures. Among other products, alcohol beverage products require an import permit which the South African importer or foreign exporter agent obtains from the Directorate of Import and Export Control within the Department of Trade and Industry.

Since the end of the trade embargo in 1994, U.S. companies can freely engage in trade activities with South Africa. But, again, it would be advisable for interested industry parties to check with several of the U.S. and South African industry-related government and private sector entities for advice and up-dated data on current export (e.g., tariff rates and customs valuations) and business regulations and procedures. For example, the Department of Commerce maintains a U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service (U.S. & F.C.S.) office in Johannesburg and a branch office in Cape Town. U.S. companies/individuals interested in doing wine-related business in South Africa may wish to contact these offices directly for further advice, information and recommended contacts: U.S. Foreign and Commercial Service, c/o American Consulate General, Johannesburg, S.A. and U.S. Foreign and Commercial Service, Johannesburg, or Cape Town, American Consulate General, c/o Department of State, Washington, D.C.

Also, there are a number of U.S. and South African business organizations both in Washington, D.C., and in South Africa that are good sources of information and potential business contacts. They include the following: American Chamber of Commerce in Southern Africa; U.S.-South Africa Business Council, Washington, D.C.; and Investor Responsibility Research Center, Inc. (IRRC), Washington, D.C. The IRRC publishes a number of informational materials about American business activities in South Africa.

For information on possible U.S. government assistance in the establishment of joint venture capital development projects, e.g., an American equipped bottling plant, contact the U.S. Trade and Development Agency, Africa Division, Washington, D.C., Mr. John Richter, Director.

For more information on import permits, contact the Director of Imports and Exports,

Department of Trade and Industry, South Africa.

For more information on import policy and tariffs, contact the Commissioner, Customs and Excise Administration, Department of Finance, South Africa; South African Import and Export Association; South African Chamber of Business (SACOB); South African Foreign Trade Organization (SAFTO); or Embassy of South Africa, Economic/Commercial Section.

Additionally, if one has an interest in marketing a U.S. wine product in South Africa, there is the benefit of being able to access an in-country modern public media network and advertising resource. For further information on advertising agencies and advertising programs in South Africa, inquiries should be directed to the Association of Advertising Agencies, Johannesburg, S.A.

Current customs duties payable on importation of wine to the Republic of South Africa: Fortified—customs duty, .31 per liter; excise duty, .5315 per 100 liters; vat payable, 14%. Unfortified—customs duty, .31 per liter; excise duty, .36 per 100 liters; vat payable, 14%.

The South African wine industry has made great strides forward with the application of modern scientific viticultural and enological practices and the use of state-of-the-art production equipment. The continuing research into varieties, soil types, disease and plant quality control, fermentation, etc., at the nation's research facilities will help ensure the future growth and economic viability of the South African wine industry.

American business involvement in the evolving South African wine industry is worth investigating!

Members of the Delegation: Gordon W. Murchie, Delegation Leader and President, Vinifera Wine Growers Association, Alexandria, Virginia; Professor Lena B. Brattsten, Department of Entomology, Rutgers University, Jackson, New Jersey; Leah J. Jones, Wine Label Sales, FP Label Company, Napa, California; Carolyn J. Kelley, M.Ed., Wakefield, Massachusetts; Michael & Jacque Martini, Louis M. Martini, Calistoga, California; Anita J. Murchie, Delegation Reporter, VWGA; Albert A. Oliveira Basport Vineyard, King City, California; Donna M. Oliveira, Amaral Vineyard, King City, California; Sharon Osgood, Esq., Law Offices of Sharon Osgood, Grand Island, New York; Wilbur E. Rojewsky, Alasco Rubber & Plastics Corp., Belmont, California.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID BLOOME

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to David Bloome, the creator of the Eco-Heroes Program, a community action program organized by the UCLA Policy Forum in conjunction with the U.S. Forest Service, the California Environment Project and the Los Angeles Unified School District. This program educates high school students about protecting the forests and encourages them to perform community service.

William Inge wrote that "The aim of education is not of facts but of values." David Bloome, for more than a decade, has man-

aged community action programs that promote activism as well as awareness. His efforts had their genesis while he was still a student at UCLA when he initiated one of the largest curriculum reforms in the University's history. Working with the administration, faculty and students, David developed a new foreign language policy for all undergraduates.

While on the staff of the UCLA Alumni Association, he conceived and implemented Target Literacy, a nationally recognized program that recruited university alumni as tutors in schools throughout California. His endeavor was awarded the 1991 National Education Gold Medal from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education and adopted as a model by universities across the nation. Under his direction, the UCLA Alumni Scholars Program was re-organized so that volunteer participation in its projects increased by 800%.

The Eco-Heroes program is another example of David's dedication to motivating the youth of the community. This pilot program has made students more aware of their roles and responsibilities in the natural environment. Students from El Camino Real High School in the San Fernando Valley and Garfield High School in East Los Angeles have been given the opportunity to participate in a series of educational in-class briefings and on-site projects in the Angeles National Forest. Not only were they educated about the environment, they also assisted with important tasks such as litter abatement and tree planting, including the removal of over 350 pounds of trash and recyclables. This program exemplifies David's tireless effort to ensure the education of future generations.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring David Bloome for his service as an administrator at UCLA's School of Public Policy and Social Research, and for his continual work to foster action and education in the community. He is a role model for our education system and an example of how we must reach out to others around us if we wish to ensure a bright future for our children.

TRIBUTE TO THE COTTON BOLL AREA GIRL SCOUT COUNCIL

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago, in rural Southern Missouri, a small group of individuals banded together and decided that there needed to be an organization for young girls in Missouri's Bootheel. Today, I rise to pay tribute to the more than 146,000 girls and young women who heard the call and who have been a part of the Girl Scouts in this most Southern area of the State.

Thanks to the hard work and tireless dedication of the Cotton Boll Area Girl Scout Council, today the hard work of the past 50 years is a bright and shining reality for Southern Missouri's young women. Officially chartered in 1948, the Council serves girls from kindergarten through high school in a nine-county region including: Scott, New Madrid, Mississippi, Pemiscot, Dunklin, Stoddard, Butler, Ripley and Carter Counties. In fact, two of my staff members are veterans of the Cotton Boll Area Girl Scouts.