

THE DEBATING UNION

FOUNDED 1934

31st March, 1983

Comrade Oliver Tambo
President, African National Congress of S.A.
Office of the President
P.O. Box 1791
Lusaka
Zambia

Dear Comrade Tambo

One of the aims of the LSE Debating Union is to provide a platform for views and causes which are denied an adequate hearing in the commercial media. This year we intend concentrating on the struggle of the people of South Africa. To this end we are organising, in consultation with Cde Mompoti, a major campaign in the schools and universities in and around London to mobilise students against apartheid and to politicize them as to its effect on the whole of Southern Africa.

To launch the campaign we are planning a major series of public evening debates on the issue, to which the media, parliamentarians, businessmen and students will specifically be invited. We are keen that the A.N.C. should be represented at the highest level on at least one of these occasions and, accordingly, we would be delighted if you were to accept an invitation to debate at the London School of Economics.

The motion we would suggest is that "Only Socialism can satisfy South Africa's future", but we would be happy to agree to any other motion you might consider to be more constructive. Were you to agree to this suggested motion, we would endeavour to persuade Harry Oppenheimer, Gavin Relly or Mike Rosholt to fly out and oppose the motion.

We would ask you to deliver a speech of approximately 20-25 minutes. The opposer would then do likewise and the debate would then be thrown open to the floor. In conclusion, each speaker would have 5-10 minutes to sum up before moving to a vote. All the speeches will be recorded and a transcript there-of will eventually be published.

As regards travel expenses, we are unfortunately not in a position to offer to pay for these. However, as you often pass through London, we thought you might agree to speak in such a debate during one of your scheduled visits. Would this be possible sometime during October or November 1983?

Should you be able to accept our invitation, I would be most grateful if you would advise me at your earliest convenience on the following points:

- the precise motion you would most like to debate
- against whom you would most like to debate that motion
- the most likely suitable date in October or November.

You may be interested to know that I and my vice-president were recently able to persuade the Students' Union to re-name the Main Building at L.S.E. the "Nelson and Winnie Mandela Building". It is in the main theatre of this

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PRESIDENT - Humphrey Harrison (01-968 9765); VICE-PRESIDENT - Nico de Beer (01-262 6482);
CHAIRMAN - Michiel Moszynski (01-723 8538); TREASURER - Dulcie Mapondera (01-631 3255)

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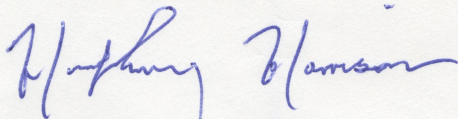
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building that the debate will be held.

I do hope you will consider our request favourably, and I look forward to hearing from you.

In solidarity

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Humphrey Harrison', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

HUMPHREY HARRISON
PRESIDENT