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NEWS

A Division of CBS Inc.

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Dear John: May 28, 1985

In response to your request here is a brief explanation of the report we 'would, like to film with the ANC.

Our point of departure would be the earlier documentary I produced on the ANC, The Battle For South Africa. This time we would like to do a profile of Umkonto We Sizwe - a film portrait of your young warriors alongside President Tambo.

Here is my thinking about the project. The world's attention has again turned to South Africa and there is a general awareness that the Afrikaners are under siege. But there is little general recognition of the ANC's role and almost no understanding whatsoever about the significance of Umkonto We Sizwe.

We are asking for your cooperation to film the men and women of Umkonto We Sizwe. We would want to record their music and songs of liberation, to film them training, and most important to interview them about their experiences in South Africa - why they came out, why they joined the ANC, what kind of following the ANC has inside South Africa, what kind of government they are trying to bring about, what their goals are and what means they are employing to achieve those goals.

To this extent we would hope to film President Tambo with the soldiers of Umkonto We Sizwe. The last time we reported on the ANC everyone we spoke to emphasized a commitment to a non-racial solution to the problems of South Africa. The ANC leadership at that time went to extraordinary lengths to explain the specific reasons for resorting to violence and made great efforts to prevent your soldiers from becoming brutalized and transformed by having to resort to violence. It's important to show this if it is still a part of the doctrine and operating procedures of the ANC.

Along with this basic filming we would hope to interview the commandos who have successfully struck targets inside South Africa, and returned to your bases outside. As you remember we did such an interview in the Battle For South Africa. Hopefully you could assemble those young men (and or women) - your war heroes - who have managed to pull off these operations in the last five years.

I think you would agree that more than anything else this sort of filmed report would demonstrate the AETC's role in the current battle over South Africa's destiny.

I of course cannot detail all the things we would want to do since I haven't been to your camps or talked to your soldiers in some five years but this at least is what springs to mind sitting in New York city and thinking back on our last trip to Africa.

I would be more than happy to discuss this with you further if I can be of assistance.

I hope you have a good trip and look forward to seeing you on your return. Please give my best to Thabo and to President Tambo.

Sincerely,