

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

P.O. BOX 31791 LUSAKA ZAMBIA TELEPHONE 219656/7 TELEX 43590

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

16th November, 1988

Comrade George Monare
SACTU
P.O. Box 71807
Dar es Salaam.
TANZANIA

Dear Comrade,

Re: RPC Elections

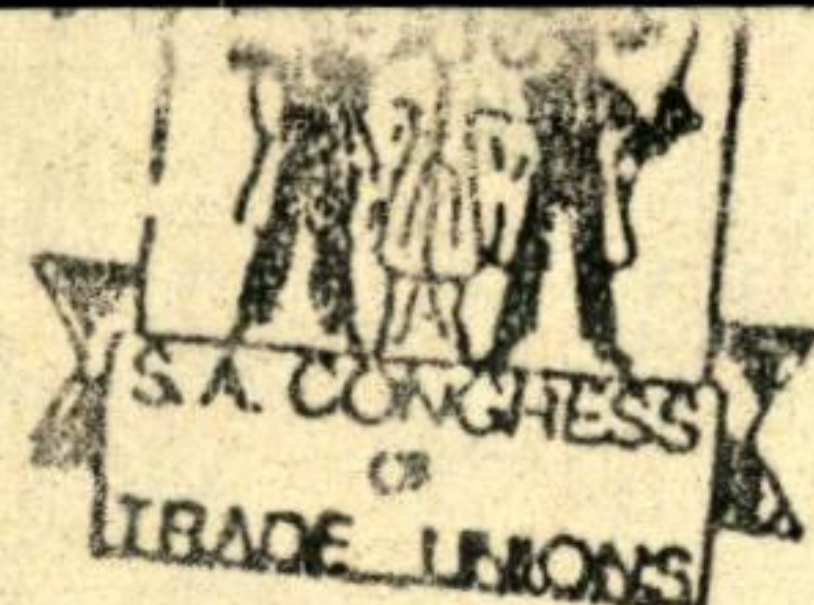
We acknowledge with thanks receipt of your letter on the 3rd November, 1989.

By copy of this letter we are referring the matter to the Commission for External Organisation to attend. Hopefully you will hear from its convenor as soon as possible.

Yours in the struggle,

A. G. Makgothi
A. G. MAKGOTHI
ASS. SECRETARY-GENERAL

cc. The Convenor, Commission for External Organisation,
ANC, Lusaka.



South African Congress of Trade Unions

Telephone 28031
Telex 41462

P.O. Box 71807
DAR ES SALAAM
TANZANIA

3 11 89
S.G.O

20th September 1989.

Dear Comrade,

The East African region held their Regional Political Committee elections on Sunday, 16th September 1989 in Mazimbu. These are my observations and may I also add that it is a cry from the heart of a concerned member of the African National Congress. They are all in the accompanying document which I had prepared prior to the meeting. The chairman of the RPC had indicated that I had to make the closing remarks

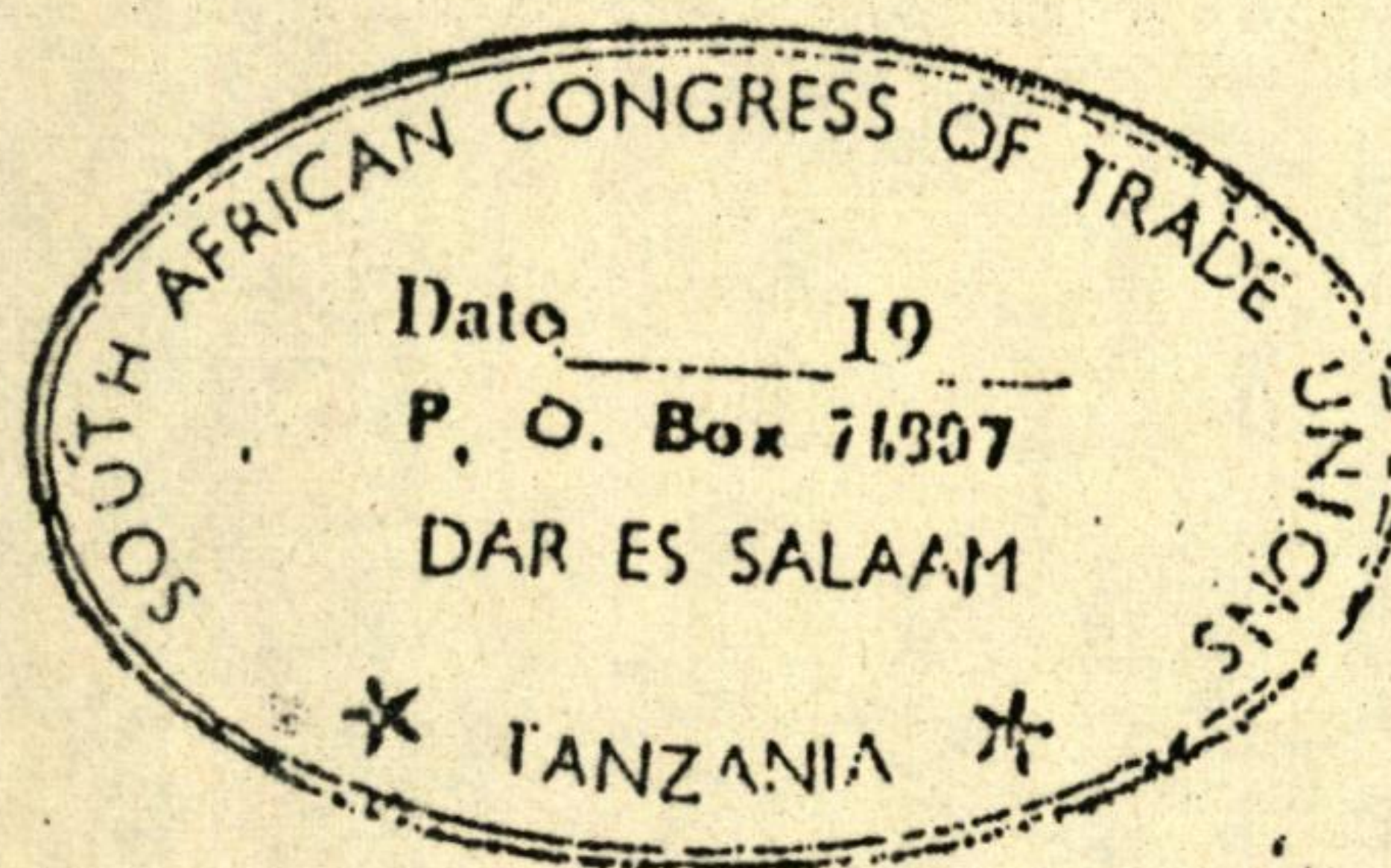
The elections did not go the way that we had all expected. The deliberations mainly took the form of emotionally-charged accusations against the RPC Secretariat, failures, errors of commission and omission. There were no noteworthy positive contributions made from the floor and it was pathetic to see the RPC secretariat being the butt of so much criticism and none took the blame or responsibility for failures that they attribute to the RPC. We were all exposed to a situation of political under-development in this region and this should be a cause for concern to all of us.

There is general agreement in support of my sentiments and it is felt that we now have to work towards calling a Regional Conference in the immediate future where all problems will be thoroughly discussed.

In the year of mass action to peoples power!

George Monare
George Monare.

cc. Chairman, ZPC, Dsm
Chairman, ZPC, Mazimbu.
Chairman, ZPC, Dakawa.
Secretary-General, ANC.
Director, Mazimbu.



This was to have been my speech when delivering closing remarks on 16th Sept. 1989; RPC meeting.

The outgoing Regional Political Committee has to be commended for the sterling work that they have done during their term of office. Since its inception in May 1988, they have held a series of meetings with various specialised units and departments in our region and the result was that they were able to identify problem areas. These were mainly problems of a social nature which one could attribute the cause to the low level of consciousness, political apathy and lethargy that was and is still prevalent in the region. It was this state of affairs that caused concern and it was felt that there was an urgent need of resuscitating the RPC in order to revive politics in the region.

Those that were elected to the RPC secretariat comprised a youthful, determined and committed cadres and one could not have failed to detect a mood of optimism and this was also evident in the meetings. We were all impressed in the business-like manner in which they went about their work. The secretariat in fact stated in one of their meetings that they noted with satisfaction the positive mood of cooperation with all structures and people that they had had meetings with. There was euphoria and our hopes and expectations were raised. The climate was favourable and we all looked forward to political growth taking place.

But it was not to be so. It was not long that we began to notice that all was not well in the RPC. Crises arose, partly because our expectations were not realised. We began to worry and we soon found out that morale sank chiefly because those manning administrative posts did not accord the RPC the respect and dignity that they deserved. For instance, after the new administration block was completed and offices were given to departments, The RPC was given a small office enough to accommodate two desks and this they had to share with the ZPC.

It was never considered by those responsible for allocating motor vehicles that it was vital and necessary for the RPC to have a car so that they can be able to travel from one point to another in this vast region where our people ^{are} scattered. These were obstacles they encountered and appeals to those allocating resources did nothing to help remove these obstacles. All I know is that an old dilapidated car was given to them and a suggestion was made that they occupy the old office in Morogoro. If more was to be expected from the RPC, then encouragement and incentives should have been given to the secretariat to make their task easier and in the course of their work chalk up successes and achieve the desired results.

May I venture to suggest that if the PRO forms part of an important contingent in our overall structures and are given all the facilities to enable them to carry out their work, it is also my considered opinion that political development and the concomitant cadre development policy, a task which the RPC is charged with, should be given equal consideration. We tend not to put the two on an equal par yet on close scrutiny, one represents a negative aspect whilst the latter represents a positive aspect. To elaborate further, the PRO is concerned with security and thus the weeding out of elements that are plants whose mission is to subvert the movement, whereas the RPC seeks to promote and develop aspects that are conducive towards political orientation, conscientisation and building off cadres.

Let us not lose sight of the fact that the ANC is principally a political movement. If projects and other departments that service our institutions sustain their work through budgets drawn by donor agencies and benefit from these budgets, then the political work should be financed from the coffers of the ANC. It becomes imperative that the Treasurer-Generals Office should open an account for RPCs and the Department of Political Education. The two cannot be treated separately as one complements the other. This is to be treated as a priority.

Enclosed as an annexure is a leaflet I distributed to members of my ZPC at the time that I was chairman. The sentiments that I expressed then are still valid. The majority of people who claim to be members are in fact not members in the true sense of the word. Their lack of commitment makes one to doubt their sincerity and whether they truly subscribe to the policies of the African National Congress. Through the vast support that we receive from the international community we have succeeded in creating and transforming the ANC into a vast charitable organisation which seem to be too liberal in handing out benefits. This is the obvious reason of the ANC drawing to its ranks all manner of people, some with a dubious past. They contribute nothing either in the form of labour or politics and for want of a better word, they can be described as parasites.

But parasites are not discarded and to transform our situation and resurrect these people, we have to harness all our forces and assemble all our efforts in creating a viable RPC that will undertake to root out any manifestations of parasitism, idleness and social deviations. These social evils have to be replaced with a sense of responsibility and a correct attitude to labour which can be engendered by a political process that will inculcate values and a sense of pride and dignity in these comrades. With these perspectives one can quickly establish the immensity of the task facing the RPC in this region. By RPC we mean all of us who belong to units and that includes the heads of departments, technocrats and professionals. Their loyalty is first to the ANC and its political work. Those whom we have elected into the secretariat will only be able to carry out their tasks consciously and effectively if we all invest our trust and confidence in them. We must not in any way say or do things that will erode that confidence.

The growing population in East Africa of members coming from other regions demands that both the national and regional leadership should give specific attention to the needs of this region. For political maturity to succeed, which is what we all aim to achieve, developing our comrades, priority should be towards strengthening political organs. They must get material assistance and guidance from the leadership.

A F R I C A N N A T I O N A L C O N G R E S S

ZONAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE

DAR ES SALAAM

Dear Comrade

Ever since its inception, the African National Congress recognised its members who were up-to-date with the payment of their subscription fees, belonged to branches and participated in all its activities, including meeting attendances. They are entitled to be represented at the highest policy-making body of the movement i.e the National Conference. The Credentials Committee at Regional, Provincial and National Conference scrutinizes each delegate and if he/she is found not to have paid his/her dues, and not present at some or all the meetings, then such a delegate will not attend the conference as he/she is not regarded a full member of the ANC.

The situation obtaining in exile is different only in one aspect, and that is we do not pay yearly subscriptions. But we are all obliged to perform tasks assigned to us, become loyal and dedicated members whose devotion to duty becomes their priority. All other things become secondary and the struggle for the liberation of our people comes first. This is what is expected of all of us. Failure of a member to attend unit meetings that are held twice a month for a period of not more than two hours is inexcusable and such a member can at best be called a free-loader. A free-loader in the sense that he wants to enjoy all benefits like shelter, food, clothing, scholarships etc. given to members and yet does not contribute in any way to the promotion of the struggle.

Unit meetings are a vehicle for political debates, analysis of events and discussions that will raise your awareness and help to develop you into a cadre of the African National Congress, where you can bring your grievances to the attention of the leadership and also to make suggestions/recommendations to both political and administrative structures.

May we conclude by saying that your membership, your commitment to the cause will be judged on the basis of what you do at the unit level. It is your duty to attend unit meetings, general meetings and all meetings called to observe National days. ANC may in future become intolerant and question the credentials of free-loaders, fellow-travellers and passengers. Duty calls, the battle lines are drawn and you should all be found taking positions on the right side.

A M A N D L A I

M A T L A I

P O W E R I

GEORGE MONARE
CHAIRPERSON OF THE ZPC