

Lauriergracht 116
1016 RR Amsterdam

Postbus 10500
1001 EM Amsterdam

Telefoon (020) 26 75 25

Telex 33574 (NL) ref. A89C

Telefax (0)20 - 23 73 35

Giro 580900



Cam/005/0067/2

ANC- OFFICE CANADA
ATTN. CDE. SALOOJEE

Amsterdam, October 21th 1988

Dear cde. Saloojee,

Herewith I want to confirm our phonecall of October 19th, in which our movement requested you to assist us. I also want to apologize for working the other way around, but the little time we have forces me to.

Following the request of ANC to pay attention to the case of Ismael Ebrahim, our movement decided to organise a hearing on abductions by the South African regime. Since cde. Ibrahim stands trial already we set the date on December 15.

We think of inviting 4 or 5 victims and 4 or 5 specialists on international law and legal specialists. The specialists will hear the witnesses and then bring out their verdict on the testimony placed before them. In this way we hope to prove that there are no legal grounds for a number of prosecutions which have already taken place.

With this verdict we hope to be able to encourage (Western) governments and international organisations to protest more strongly against this flagrant breach of international law and to demand the immediate release and return of those who have been abducted from foreign territory.

In the list, which you will also find, you find the names of possible witnesses. As you already know we would like your assistance in inviting cde. Pillay and cde. Cele. Concerning cde. Cele we asked cde. Zuma to invite her personally, but a reconnection from your side will be most welcome and important too.

The whole list of possible participants is shown to cdes. Nzo, Zuma and Skewija. For further information, please do not hesitate to contact us. You also will find the official invitations to cdes. Pillay and Cele.

Yours sincerely

Gea Mulder

International hearing on abductions by the South African regime,
Amsterdam, December 15, 1988

Amsterdam, October 1988

Dear Sir, Madam,

The Anti-Apartheid Movement in the Netherlands is planning an international hearing on abductions carried out by order of the South African government.

During the hearing which will last for one day, the evidence of at least six victims of operations carried out by South African commandos on foreign territory will be heard. After this, a number of legal experts will express their judgement on how these activities relate to international law; in particular we hope to be able to show that there are no legal grounds for prosecution in cases where the defendant has been brought to court by means of such activities. We believe that this is an aspect of South African war tactics which until now has escaped the notice of the media, governments and the public. By means of the hearing, which is being organised in close contact with staff of the international Defence and Aid Fund in London, specialists in international law and others, the Anti-Apartheid Movement in the Netherlands hopes to break through this silence.

The chosen form - a hearing - seems to us the most appropriate, because it allows so much attention to be paid to individual 'cases'. From a brief survey of a number of these cases of abduction and their background, a picture appears of a regime which ignores international legal agreements and which does not hesitate to pursue those it regards as its enemies as far as the frontline states or western Europe.

It pursues, it orders attacks like those recently on ANC representative in the Benelux, Mr Godfrey Motsepe, and on Mrs. Dulcie September, ANC-representative for France, who was killed in March of this year, and it abducts.

In short, the primary aim of the hearing is to focus attention on the phenomenon itself. The judgements of the international legal experts will be presented to governments and international organizations and hopefully will lead to effective measures being taken. In this way more international support can be gained for countries on whose territory the South African commandos operate and those countries will dare to protest more forcefully than has been the case up until now. Finally, we hope that the hearing will be of importance to those who are at the moment imprisoned and who are standing trial as a result of having been abducted.

A conference on South African aggression against her neighbours, in particular Angola and Mozambique is also being organised on December 10 in Amsterdam on the initiative of the Holland Committee on Southern Africa and Kairos.

A programme of activities is emerging which will draw attention to South Africa's activities in the area from different

viewpoints and which will effectively counter the attempts of Apartheid propaganda to present a new peace loving image of itself.

The date December 15 is not coincidental. Exactly two years earlier South African commandos abducted Ebrahim Ismail Ebrahim from Swaziland to South Africa. At the movement, Ebrahim's trial is taking place and the defence expects a verdict to be passed sometime in November which could mean a heavy prison sentence or even capital punishment for this ANC man, who has already spent 15 years of his life on Robben Island. Rudie Boon, well known Dutch journalist, talked with Ebrahim in Lusaka, shortly before his abduction. The talks he had will be published in the form of a brochure which will serve as background reading to the hearing.

A Dutch representative will most likely attend at the final part of the trial and make a report on this during the hearing. As well as witnesses, international legal experts and the media, the following people will also be invited to attend the hearing: representatives of the Dutch government, the EC, the United Nations, the Organisation of South African Unity, churches, the frontline states including Swaziland on whose territory most abductions have taken place and the United States, where the description of South Africa as a 'terrorist state' seems to be gaining more and more support.

We hope with this information to have been able to convince you of the importance of this hearing. We would like to ask you to help make the hearing possible by donating contribution of

. We enclose an outline of expected expenditure. We will, of course, acknowledge your financial support in further publicity and during the hearing itself.

With kind regards,

Yours faithfully
Conny Braam,
chairperson AABN

List of possible participants at hearing on abductions by the South Africa regime, December 15, 1988, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Joe Pillay; abducted from Swaziland in 1982, released due to international pressure; ANC-member, at present teaching mathematics to Indians in Canada.

Grace Cele; abducted from Swaziland in 1986; worked for SIDA from Canada; she was detained for several months and apparently released in February 1987; now lives in Canada.

Bischoff-Schneider couple; Swiss nationals, working on development projects in Swaziland; were abducted in 1986, released due to pressure from Switzerland; can probably be contacted through Swiss anti-apartheid movement.

Khumbuzile Maphamulo; widow of the ANC-member Shadrack Mzeni, who was abducted and murdered in 1986; her 16 year old child was probably a witness too.

Mbali; abducted from Lesotho in the late 1960's; now lives in Lusaka.

Victor Matlou; abducted circa 1978; his plane was forced to land in South-Africa; interrogated for 3 months and released.

Desmond Francis; abducted from Livingstone, Zambia several years ago.

Ramotse; abducted from Botswana in early 1970's.

Waiter from Swaziland; taken by accident and later brought back; name and present residence unknown.

Information dossiers are being prepared on these people and research is also being carried out into the 'London affair'.