

V

Telex: ZA 40118

A

Gam'xzfiysm ooou Do

ZA IA HIGH COMMISSION

United Republic of Tanzania

Telegraphic: TANZANREP PO. Box 31219

Telephone: 211422 L U S A K A

Lusaka Zambia

Ref.: No T. ?.:99;.R.-...49!.%.... Da'8280688

To: GOVAN MBEKI,

Johannesburg,

SOUTH AFRICA.

Dear Brother and Comrade in Arms,

We have just had the opportunity of meeting the Reverend Canon M. Xundu, member of the Executive Committee of the UDF; Director of Justice and Reconciliation Programme, Diocese of Port Elizabeth; and Canon of the Cathedral of the Cathedral of Port Elizabeth, who was so kind as to meet us - the High Commissioners and Ambassadors of the African States accredited to the Republic of Zambia - and brief us on the current situation in your beloved country.

As you may be aware, we are always following, with the keenest interest, all the significant events which take place in your country. We endeavour, as far as humanly possible, to keep abreast of such events or developments because, firstly, we have the interest of our sisters and brothers in your country close to our hearts; and secondly, because what happens in South Africa affects, in one way or another, each and every one of our countries. Your release, for example, from the smaller prison on the Robben Islands, only to find yourself incarcerated in a larger prison which your country has, for some time become, is a case in point.

But, it was a more rewarding experience to meet Reverend Xundu in person, and got directl' grczn him, an account of what is currently happening in your country, and the situation in which the regime has decided to place you. It was a moving account. Naturally, we were petrified. But, certainly, we were not surprised. For, we know for sure, that that is the reality of life for the majority of your people

_/2

who happen to be non-white in the colour of their skin segments. Yet, we also know that your release from the smaller prison, has come at a time when events within the borders of your country, and in our Southern Africa region as a whole, indicate quite clearly, that in spite of the South African government's manifest superiority in military and other means of coercion, the regime's capacity and ability to effectively and totally silence all opposition from the majority of the country's population, have their own limits. The regime is neither omnipresent nor omnipotent.

This is already evident and quite undeniable. Indeed, it is with this in mind, Dear Brother and Comrade in Arms, that your brothers Heads of Missions of African States in Zambia, have jointly asked me to write and express, on their behalf and on my own behalf, our continued solidarity with you in your tribulations and to wish you happiness and good health in the context of your country's situation.

ggl__lm.

Saleh B. Tambwe

DEAN OF THE AFRICAN GROUP