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PRESS RELEASE

PRESS STATEMENT OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS ON THE POLICE RAID ON THE HOUSES OF NELSON MANDELA - 6TH JUNE, 1990.

The African National Congress lodges its strongest protest against the unwarranted early-morning raids on two houses belonging to its Deputy President, Mr. Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela.

In the early hours of Tuesday morning (5th June) and at 3.15 a.m. on Wednesday, 6th June, large contingents of Police raided three houses in Soweto. All three houses are occupied by persons who have recently returned from Lusaka with the knowledge and permission of the Pretoria Government. Two of the houses belong to the Deputy President of the ANC. They are situated in Orlando West and Diepkloof. The third house, in Dube, is occupied by the parents of one of the recent returnees.

All the Police were white and were very heavily armed. They consisted of members of the SECURITY POLICE and other branches of the SAP. They knew the occupants of the houses, and were fully aware that they had only recently returned to South Africa.

The Police contemptuously refused to produce a search warrant, swore at the occupants and forced them - at gunpoint - to stand with their hands up against the wall. The Police raid lasted over an hour.

For Police to raid a home of NELSON MANDELA claiming to be looking for a suspected murdererfis the height of provocation. This is particularly so as the Police are fully aware that the occupants are ANC members who recently returned to South Africa with the full sanction and knowledge of President de Klerk.

There can be no Police raid of our people that takes place in a good

spirit. The ANC regards these raids to be in conflict with the rights of the returning exiles and an act against the spirit of the Groote Schuur Agreement. We demand that such acts of intimidation and provocation cease immediately.

ANC Headquarters - Johannesburg

7.06.90

