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THE UNITED CHURCH Observer

85 St. Clair Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario M4T 1M8

Telephone (416) 925-5931

September 12, 1980

Mr. Alfred Nzo
General Secretary
Africa National Congress (SA)
Box 31791
Lusaka, Zambia

Dear Mr. Nzo:

During the June meetings in Holland of the Programme to Combat Racism of the World Council of Churches, you may recall, that I discussed with you the possibility of my coming to Southern Africa to do a series of in-depth articles about the Africa National Congress, Southwest Africa Peoples Organization and other relevant liberation movements involving the struggles of the people to free themselves from oppressive regimes in that part of Africa.

If I recall our conversations correctly, it was suggested that I might come to Lusaka in the first part of 1981 to meet with your people and interview key leaders in the political and military wings of ANC. If there was any possibility of covering actions which ANC might be organizing or meeting exiles, people who have been driven out of South Africa, and others who are connected with the struggle it would be most helpful. I am also concerned, of course, in connecting up with church people and organizations who support the liberation movements and who identify with them.

I am contacting people in the Programme to Combat Racism for assistance and also officials of SWAPO for their area of concern. I expect I would also try to make Angola, Zimbabwe and Mozambique points of interviews and contact for the stories.

Some information about me and The Observer might be important so that you have a clear picture of my work. I am enclosing the articles I did on the consultation last June in Holland. I am a journalist who, for the past 25 years has specialized in Third World issues. I have covered several African situations, including the Nigeria-Biafra civil war, meetings of the All Africa Conference of Churches, refugee situations in the Sahel and the Horn of Africa, as well as a variety of political, economic, religious and social issues in Africa and other parts of the world. I have just returned from three weeks with the Peoples Armies in El Salvador and Guatemala and The Observer is running a 16-page special edition on their struggle. I have covered many war situations and am skilled in preserving people's anonymity as required. I am also an experienced photographer.

Mr. Alfred Nzo

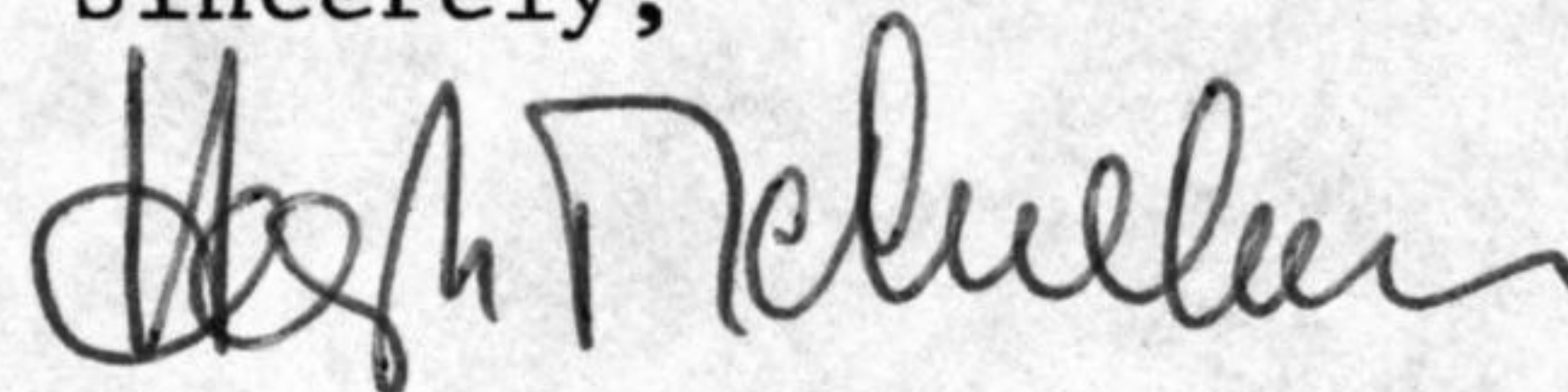
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The Observer is the national magazine of The United Church of Canada, the largest non-Roman Catholic denomination in Canada and it has a long and active history of support for the PCR and African liberation movements among other things. The magazine has a monthly circulation of 320,000 paid subscriptions and a readership of close to a million people, including some of the country's key political and economic leaders. As well, if the series we are planning were to be completed, the material would be shared with large U. S. and other Canadian publications as well as those in Europe and elsewhere.

I hope that you and your colleagues in ANC could assist me in setting up an itinerary to meet and cover the struggle firsthand of your countrymen in attaining freedom from racism and every other oppression. I would be available to travel the first of next year and the preferred time would be March or even better, April. The magazine would, of course, meet all expenses.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Hugh McCullum', with a stylized, cursive script.

Hugh McCullum
Editor

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