

SOUTH AFRICAN



COMMUNIST PARTY

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Central Committee

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CHRIS HANI: "My life"

Chris Hani, born on 28 June 1942, in Cofimvaba Transkei. General Secretary of the SACP since December 1991, and ANC NEC member since 1974. Matriculated at Lovedale, 1958; Universities - Rhodes and Fort Hare 1959-61, BA Latin and English. Joined ANC Youth League 1957. Active in Eastern and Western Cape ANC, before leaving SA in 1962. Commissar in the Lutuli detachment joint ANC/ZAPU military campaign 1967, escaped to Botswana, returned from Botswana to Zambia 1968, infiltrated SA in 1973 and then based in Lesotho. Left Maseru for Lusaka 1982 after several unsuccessful assassination attempts. Commissar and Deputy Commander of Umkhonto we Sizwe, armed wing of ANC, 1984. Chief of Staff, MK 1987.

The following brief autobiographical account was written by comrade Chris Hani in February 1991:

"I was born in a small rural town in the Transkei called Cofimvaba. This town is almost 200 kilometres from East London. I am the fifth child in a family of six. Only three of us are still surviving, the other three died in their infancy. My mother is completely illiterate and my father semi-literate. My father was a migrant worker in the mines in the Transvaal, but he subsequently became an unskilled worker in the building industry.

Life was quite harsh for us and we went through some hard times as our mother had to supplement the family budget through subsistence farming; had to bring us up with very little assistance from my father who was always away working for the white capitalists.

I had to walk twenty kilometres to school every five days and then walk the same distance to church every Sunday. At the age of eight I was already an altar boy in the Catholic church and was quite devout. After finishing my primary school education I had a burning desire to become a priest but this was vetoed by my father.

In 1954, while I was doing my secondary education, the apartheid regime introduced Bantu Education which was designed to indoctrinate Black pupils to accept and recognise the supremacy of the white man over the blacks in all spheres. This angered and outraged us and paved the way for my involvement in the struggle. The arraignment for Treason of the ANC leaders in 1956 convinced me to join the ANC and participate in the struggle for freedom. In 1957 I made up my mind and joined the ANC Youth League. I was fifteen then, and since politics was proscribed at African schools, our activities ...

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS YOUTH LEAGUE

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

10 April 1993

STATEMENT OF THE ANC YOUTH LEAGUE ON THE ASSASSINATION OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN COMMUNIST PARTY - CHRIS HANI

The ANC Youth League sends its heartfelt condolences to the wife and family of Comrade Chris Hani, General Secretary of the South African Communist Party.

The assassination of the General Secretary of the South African Communist Party, Comrade Martin Thembisile (Chris) Hani is a culmination of a long standing campaign of vilification of communists and fighters for freedom by the Nationalist Party government and other institutions of the ruling bloc.

Even after the unbanning of organisations in 1990, the NP government continued with its portrayal of the SACP as opponents of democracy and villains. We therefore cannot conclude otherwise other than to say that the Nationalist Party policies have provided a justification for the murder of Chris Hani. The actions of the Nationalist Party government against him and his de facto banning to Transkei for the greater part of 1990 - 1991 and numerous trumped up charges by the SAP, were part of a co-ordinated plan to yield result to the dastardly act of this morning.

The response of the SA government to the murder of comrade Chris Hani and the statement of the SAP are transparent with self-satisfaction. Both statements are completely contrary to their actions towards the national liberation movement, the tri-partite alliance and the South African Communist Party in particular. We therefore offer no appreciation for the crocodile tears of F W de Klerk and his henchmen.

The ANC Youth League rejects with the contempt it deserves the so-called preliminary finding that the suspected assassin was acting alone. We do not believe that the SAP are capable of getting to the core of the assassination of Comrade Chris. We therefore reinforce the call that has been made by the SACP for an independent investigation into the killing. The murder is a well planned political act which is designed to weaken the ANC and intensify the campaign to destroy the South African Communist Party. We view this assassination as a pre-election act by opponents of democracy to weaken those forces that would like to achieve a fundamental transformation of the South African situation. We have no doubt in our minds that this brutal act will go a long way in undermining the efforts made so far to achieve peace and tolerance. And those that wish to start this game of elimination before South Africa's first democratic election, should very well know that they will not eventually triumph.

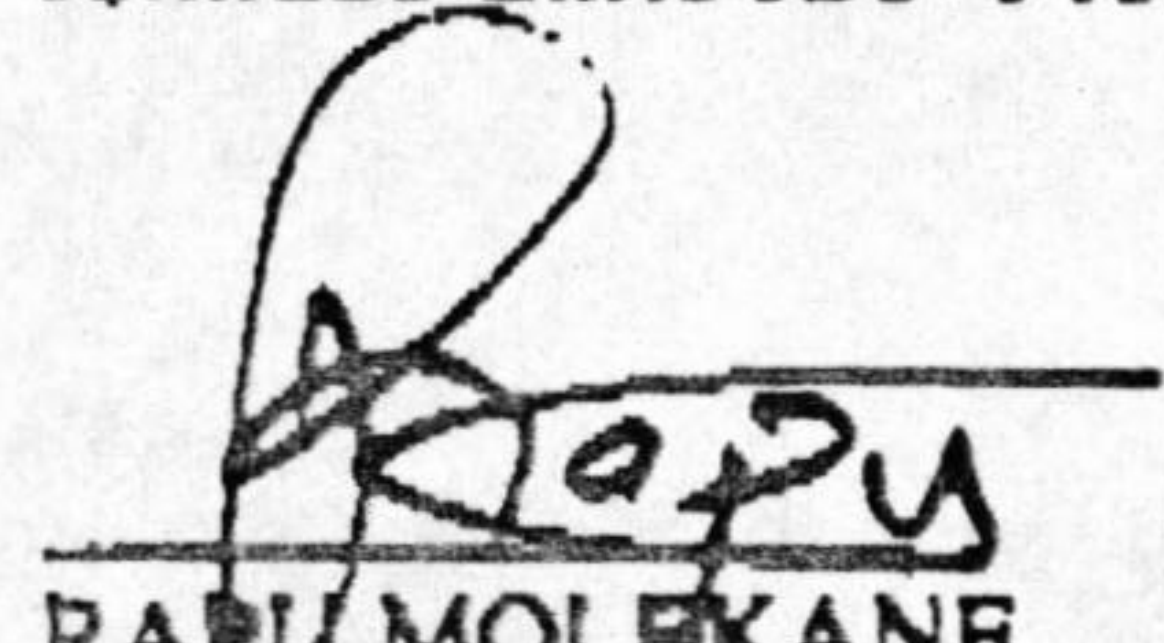
In our view, the assassination confirms once more the need to remove the Nationalist Party from power and usher in a tolerant and peaceful non-racial democracy.

FIGHT PRODUCE LEARN

To the young people of our country, Comrade Chris' person has always been an embodiment of heroism and dedication to our struggle for freedom. We shall always remember him for his resilience and determination to resist all forms of oppression and suppression.

The assassination of Comrade Chris was carried out at a time when he had more than any other leader of the ANC or other political organisations in the country, spoken against violence and more especially racially inspired violence. He was a firm believer in democracy and non - racialism. His ideas will leave forever

The ANC Youth League implores the youth of our country to emulate the example of comrade Chris Hani by intensifying the fight against apartheid and for democracy, non - racialism and peace. We can only pay tribute to the tireless efforts of comrade Chris by ensuring that an end to the current violence is achieved as soon as possible. On this occasion, the ANC Youth League urges all youth organisations to come together and work towards consolidating the efforts of achieving peace in the country. This is an ideal comrade Chris strove for all his life.


RAPI MOLEKANE
SECRETARY GENERAL

We are a nation deeply wounded by callous, uncaring men who plot such heinous crimes with impunity.

The cries of our nation are heard from old men who bury their sons and daughters, wives who weep for their husbands, communities who endlessly bury young and old, infants and pregnant women.

This killing must stop.

Chris Hani championed the cause of peace, trudging to every corner of South Africa calling for a spirit of tolerance among all our people.

We are a nation in mourning. Our pain and anger is real. Yet we must not permit ourselves to be provoked by those who seek to deny us the very freedom Chris Hani gave his life for.

Let us respond with dignity and in a disciplined fashion.

Let us observe April 14 in dignified memorial services and in accordance with the decisions of our leadership.

The date of Comrade Chris Hani's funeral will be announced after full consultations with the family.

We shall lay to rest the mortal remains of Comrade Chris Hani in a manner befitting a hero of our people. No one will desecrate his memory by rash and irresponsible actions.

At this moment of unbounded grief for the whole country, our deepest sympathies go to Chris's wife, Limpho, the children and the rest of the family.

The ANC dips its banner in salute to this outstanding son of Africa.

IN SOUTH AFRICA

10 April 1993

Dear Mr. Mandela,

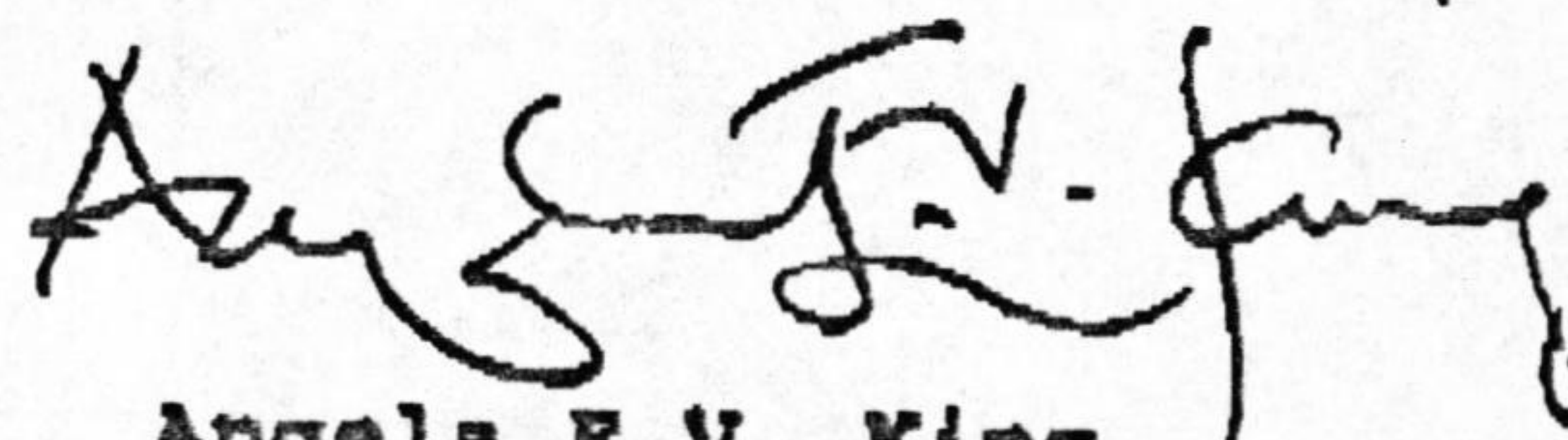
It is with a deep sense of shock that I received the news of the assassination of Mr. Chris Hani, Secretary-General of the South African Communist Party and member of the National Executive of the African National Congress. I on behalf of the United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa wish to extend to the widow and family of Mr. Chris Hani, to you and the ANC/Alliance our profound condolences on his tragic and senseless death.

Mr. Hani's contribution to the struggle against apartheid and his invaluable contribution to the peace process in South Africa is well known and greatly appreciated by us all.

I hope that his death will be honoured by all of those involved in the peace process by redoubling their efforts to maintain the momentum of the peace process.

May his soul rest in peace.

With sincere sympathy,



Angela E.V. King
Chief of Mission

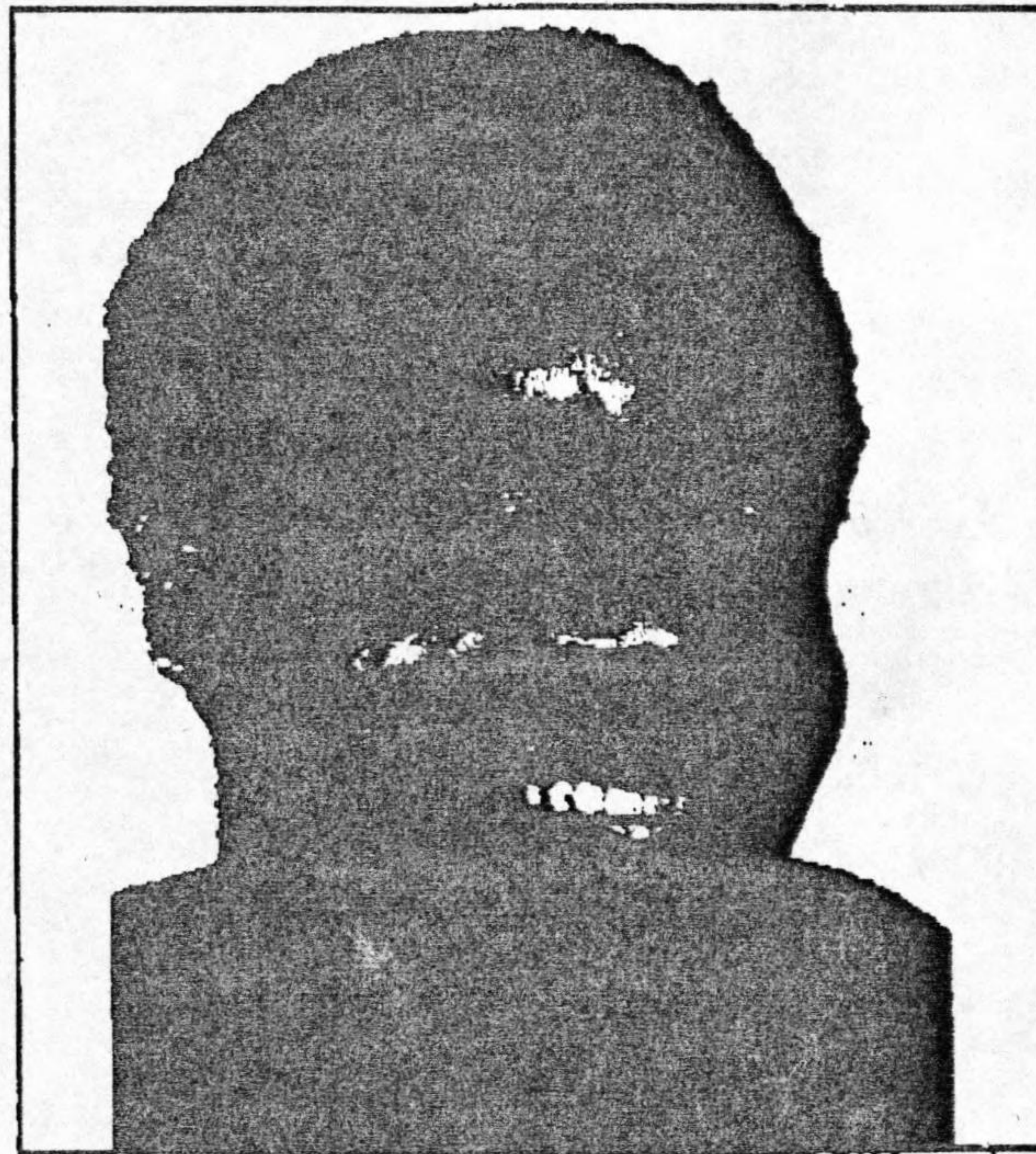
Mr. Nelson Mandela
President
African National Congress
Shell House
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DURBAN OFFICE: DURBAN BAY HOUSE, 303 SMITH STREET, DURBAN 4001

STAY AWAY

14/04/93

MEMORIAL SERVICE



Nelson Mandela Speaks!

Venue :
Jabulani Amphitheatre

Date :
14/04/93

Time :
10:AM



Issued by: ANC, SACP, COSATU, And ANCYL (Soweto)