

31st December, 1984.

Comrade T.T. Nkabi,

Box 31791,

Lusaka,

Zambia.

Dear Comrade Nkobi,

During our last trip to Africa, we received the upsetting news that bales of uniform material intended for SOMAFCO ended up not doing what it was painstakingly solicited for. Instead, it was distributed generously to Comrades in East Africa.

From the time we were asked to find a donor to the time of actually getting answers, we made many vain attempts to interest friends on the question of a school uniform. Scandinavians are generally opposed to the very notion of a school uniform as they consider it a form of segregation. Hence, we were quite relieved when the Finnish Africa Committee made this first contribution to us. This, after two and a half years of searching.

We personally had to make sure that the material was of the quality needing very little care. Each student was to have a set of three uniforms per week with an estimated 300 students, over a three year period. There was navy creased material fabric for pants and tunics; white cotton fabric for shirts. All possible accessories were considered and purchased, i.e. buttons, zippers, binding, inter and inner facing material, scissors, hooks, press and eyes. The Bill of Lading was sent early enough for anyone receiving the shipment to have had time to

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consult in case of uncertainty as to the end use of the goods.  
The very nature of the content with such accessories should have alerted anyone of the special nature of the shipment.  
You can therefore understand our anger when suits, costumes etc became the final product. To boot, we learned with added disgust that some of the fabric was sold to Tanzanians.  
Morse still is our suspicion that he acknowledged it was ever made to the donor otherwise we would have received a copy.  
Besides, it would have been normal to indicate of what particular value the gift was - in which case the word "unitary" would have suggested itself.

He is eager for an explanation as to how such a gross misuse occurred. When the donors realise the violation of their wishes to outfit the pupils in accordance with ANC stipulations, we will look like an organisation that solicits under false pretax. Our reaction leads us to the conclusion that those responsible should be the ones who should hunt for replacement.  
Pardon the anger but the entire episode does not amuse.

Amandla.

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Lindiwe Mabuza.

Chief Rasengantative.

cc. International Dept.

Chief Rep. - Tanzania,

Comrade Stan Mabizela.

Principal - T. Masako.