

SWS/223/2010/116

7.9.73

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS south africa

49 Rathbone Street, London W1A - 4 NL · Phone 580-5303 · Cables Mayibuye London W1

7 September 1973

Dear Comrade

Thank you for your letter dated 30/8/73 received by us on 7/9/73 because I had already checked the mail on Monday as usual. The problem is Reg is on leave and it appears the office is running a skeleton service, you will realise that this time of the year most people are on holiday so after receiving this letter I telephoned Adelaide Joseph, Mary, Saro Naicker, & Mecca. Adelaide is very ill and cannot ~~go~~ Mary is in South Africa her mother being critically ill Blanche is still in the USSR on holiday Saro & Mecca are both unable to accept Carole (secretary) is in Italy on holiday so it leaves only me.

I should be grateful if you could by return of post give me all details concerning when I should be expected to leave London and for how long in order to make arrangements to take some time off. Reg has already sent a cable to this effect advising you that I will be going if you send this information urgently. I am only writing to acknowledge receipt of your letter.

Whilst writing I have decided to enclose some copies of letters which should have been sent by me earlier on but due to being so very busy kept on ~~putting it off~~. Carole will send you some of the messages which we ~~thought~~ we of importance received on our South African Womens Day we thought it would carry more weight if they were acknowledged from HQ.

It is a pity money is not available otherwise I would suggest we have some form of IMVUSELELO for the London Branch it is really a pity that people are not as active as they should be.

Yours in the Struggle

Thembie E Setlhapelo

Thembie E Setlhapelo

ps Would you very kindly address all correspondence concerning this matter to ~~my~~ my private address so that it can be dealt with promptly. All other correspondence should go to the office. In case Flo is not in my address is

3 Barnard Hill, Muswell Hill, London N10, Phone 01-883/0181.

ENCs.

ARTICLE TO THE MORNING STAR

on Women's Day

From The Women's Section ANC LONDON

Womens'

~~XXX~~ The Section of the A C has called on all Progressive Women's Organisations and opponents of the South African Apartheid racist regime to remember that August 9 is South African Womens' Day. Democratic South African Women of all races first celebrated this day in 1957 when more than 20,000 women marched to Pretoria to protest against the extension of passes to the women, since then August 9 has been remembered yearly as a day of dedication by South African Women to the struggle to overthrow white supremacy and racism in our country.

The Womens' Section of the ANC greet Women from all over the world on this occasion and calls on their combined support and solidarity pointing out to the renewed resistance to the racist regime which has attained wide spread opposition, recently students uprising and the increase of activity by the Underground ANC all of which should receive the backing of the international community.

6 August 1973

Dear Comrades,

Could you please very kindly broadcast to our sisters at home the following messages on South African Womens' Day (9 August 1973) together with enclosed letter sent out to all Womens' Organisations and the Press Statement.

To our Sisters in Mother South Africa we send you our Warmest Greetings on this our South African ~~Womens'~~ Womens' Day together with numerous greetings and messages of solidarity received and still pouring from women all over the world.

The peace loving women of the world from Socialist countries, Latin America, Free Africa, East & West Europe and also our host country have asked us to convey to you their untiring support and dedication to our course. To the Mothers, daughters and children and all our Comrades at home we assure you that although we are not with you at home today to celebrate this memorial occasion we are with you in spirit and we will fight side by side with our Men until Victory is won.

Forward to Revolution, Till we meet in a Free SOUTH AFRICA

Yours in the Struggle

Thembie E. Mkhapelo

AMANDLA !!!

MAMTLA !!!,

ps Sorry for using my private stationery but I had to hurry this from my office all stationery is with Secretary. T E S

cc MOROGORO HQ

Private

my article to the morning star
25/8/73

It was disturbing and upsetting watching and listening to Prof Barnard on television the other night advocating his support for the continuation of heart transplantation. However, it is not at all surprising that he should passionately advocate the continuation of this surgery since in South Africa heart transplant is nothing less than anti-human savagery perpetrated under the respectable cloak of medical surgery and progress. For him to stand up and ask a British audience whether or not, they measured human life in £ (pounds & pence) and quoting irrelevant figures is, to my mind cynical hypocrisy. What does Professor Barnard know about ~~human~~ the value of human life in a country where human beings are distinguished by skin pigmentation only? How has he overcome the colour barrier that he can cross it to get a black heart to pump inside his white patient's chest? Most of his donors if not all have been black. How has he managed to have so many donors. We know very well that all these people could not even share a common toilet in their life time.

South African hospitals have different racial blood banks, different racially segregated hospitals and ambulances. In this apartheid set up, a black patient will rather lie seriously injured and dying in the streets of South Africa if by some mistake the call for an ambulance went through to a white station and a white ambulance came. Blood saves lives. Ambulances rush people to hospitals to save lives but in South Africa these depend entirely on race.

Professor Barnard kept on harping on other branches of organ transplantation such as liver, kidney etc yet with kidney a donor does not ~~have to be a dead person.~~ always

It would also be interesting to know more about the audiences he addresses in South Africa where he says he gets people willing to donate organs after their death since as I said above almost all his donors have been black. How many black audiences does he address?

We have read of incidents where relatives of his so called donors had not even been consulted and of other scandals where relatives of the victims have actually asked for the return of their loved one's heart.

Finally it was indeed such a great pity that Prof. Barnard's British audience appeared to be a hand picked one of agreeable medical people who did not ask him the sort of questions I am referring to but of people who were solely interested in learning more about this kind of research. Even the slide he showed of a man fishing was not very impressive in view of what the widow of his first transplant patient had to write about. It would be interesting to hear what Professor Barnard has to say about these unanswered questions.

Thank You

Yours faithfully

Name & Address Supplied

FM/FM

18th Sept - 73

Mrs T. Setlapelo,
3, Barnard Hill,
Muswell Hill,
London N10

Dear Thembi,

Thanks a lot for your letter of the 7th Sept and attached two articles to Morning Star (copy's) and reminder for August 9 copy of broadcast message to our women in S.A. I hope you sent original of latter direct to ~~Radio~~ Freedom, Voice of the A.N.C. C/O ANC office Lusaka, because the time such arrives here it is late to address to its destination.

I wish to commend you for your untiring efforts in meeting the situation, you are indeed the mouth piece of our women facing the brunt of the struggle inside the country, I do hope both articles have been published.

I arrived last week Tuesday from the NonAligned Conference which met in Algiers, I was included in the ANC delegation of seven, I got the information of my participation at the last hour but no cause for complain, it does appear they are gradually meeting our demand to be full members of the movement and not to be involved only in women's affairs. Ruth Mompoti participated in the preparatory committee of the Congress of World Peace Forces, in Moscow.

In my absence from office, Kate Molale was kind enough to send you the date of the above mentioned meeting, regrettably she transmitted incorrect date, per telephone information from our representative in the Secretariat of the World Peace Council, the meeting starts on the 25th to the 31st October, it was misinformation and hope you will be able to adjust to get time off from work then.

The names of women submitted to the S.A. to form part of A.N.C. delegation, have been sent further to the delegation committee in Lusaka, per instruction from the S.G. since he is out of town with his sick wife, (mentally disturbed) Names are as follows! Florence Majola, Sofie Williams, both in Lusaka, Norah in Algiers and Thembi London. We hope to get confirmation on suggested names, in the meantime you keep your self in readiness for Air ticket, which will determine your departure from London to Moscow.

I received minutes of two minutes from your Secretary but not the Aug 9th message as yet, I expect they will be coming, in any case the letter is of July and have not had time to acknowledge, will do so soon, there are always priorities of urgent correspondence, to be away for a short period is enough to find a backlog.

Mvuselelo is very essential but as you say, problem is fixed in the meantime oyi bambe njalo, unzima um twalo. Blessed is Mary who has gone home, how we all envy her.

We will keep you informed on developments for Congress.

Matla Amandla