

South African Medical and Dental Practitioners

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F A C S I M I L E

TO : ANC FAX NO: 29. 0120
FROM : OULCA 336 7789
DATE : 29-7-94
ATTN : Mr. SISHU
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12 July 1994

Dear President

We are black doctors practising in the Republic of South Africa, belonging to South African Medical and Dental Practitioners. We were approached, recently by doctor Motlana, about the possibility of one of us, a physician, Dr Ratsela taking care of your health on a regular and permanent basis. We were obviously excited about this and promptly advised him to forward his C.V. to you.

We are shocked and disappointed to learn that you have been advised to rely on the surgeon general for your medical care and that you don't need a permanent physician to be on call for you.

Our response to this change of affairs is as follows:

We don't know and trust that there is anybody in the military who can take care of your health. We further note that there are doctors looking after you on a consultation basis, but we feel that these doctors or physicians are not always available, it would be risky to rely on their help in any emergency. We want to take this opportunity to put forward our proposal to you.

1. A physician be found amongst members of SAMDP, who will coordinate and organize all aspects of your health.
2. This physician should examine you at least once a week, if possible and communicate with your cardiologist (Prof. Barlow) and pulmonologist (Dr M. Plit) etc. This is done so that there is a doctor on call for 24hrs.
3. This physician should be prepared to travel with you all the time.
4. If it is constitutional that the physician to the president should be a military man or woman we are prepared to undergo training in order that we can look well after our president.

In conclusion Comrade President we want to state that we are loyal members of the party you lead - the ANC and are able and willing to look after the health needs of our leaders. We wouldn't be happy to be spectators in an important affair such as this one.

Yours sincerely

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Dr P.J. Maelane

Chairperson (South African Medical and Dental Practitioners).