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The Christian Science Monitor

Earl W. Foell, Editor in Chief

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Mr. Oliver Tambo
President
African National Congress

Dear Oliver:

It's been too many years since I used to see you regularly at the UN in the 1960s. And, alas, I was out of the country when you visited Monitor headquarters last year. But now I have a favor to ask — one which would bring us together again, and one which I think would be beneficial to the ANC and to millions of American newspaper readers. From August 2 through August 22, a group of 17 American newspaper editors and publishers representing the American Society of Newspaper Editors will be touring Southern Africa. Our trip will take us to Mozambique, South Africa, Zimbabwe, and possibly Zambia. I say "possibly" because I would like to determine, through your answer to this letter, where we could meet at our mutual convenience.

Ideally, I would like to try to see you and/or other ANC leaders in Harare on August 20 or 21; in Lusaka in the late afternoon of August 21 or early morning of August 22; or at Victoria Falls on August 21. Another alternative, would be New York on August 2 (the day we depart) — if you or any of your top colleagues should happen to be in New York that long before the UN convenes.

I realize that after the South African government raids of last month, planning of this sort must be more difficult than ever. It is for that reason that I'm sending this letter to you hand carried by Frank Ferrari. I would hope that you might be able to send me a reply in Frank's care as well.

I have included the possibility of a Victoria Falls meeting in the list above, thinking it might be convenient. I know nothing of the security considerations there, but remember your successful meeting with South African business leaders on this site.

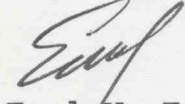
I enclose a list of the editors scheduled to go on the trip. I might just note for your information that Michael Gartner is a high executive of the Gannett Company, owner of the largest number of newspapers in America; publisher of the largest circulation daily, USA Today; and recent purchaser of three very large metropolitan newspapers. John Seigenthaler is chief editorial writer of USA Today as well as editor of the Nashville Tennessean. Robert Clark is an executive of a large number of

newspapers stretching from Texas to Massachusetts. Bill Hilliard is an American black who is editor of one of the largest papers on the West Coast. The others are either editors or publishers of major newspapers.

I enclose also a copy of our itinerary.

I hope that one of these alternate arrangements will work. I very much look forward to seeing you again.

Regards,



Earl W. Foell
Editor in Chief

er
enclosures

P.S. Two further notes:

(1) We have asked to see Nelson Mandela sometime during our trip. I suspect that is unlikely. But we have continued to press the South African government on that point. Dr. Motlana recently told me he thought there was a chance it might happen. I suspect that is merely guesswork.

(2) If you need any means of replying to me other than Frank, I think you could use our mutual friend, Mary Benson, to get a message to me.