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A MEETING IN THE KREMLIN

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Anatoly Lukyanov, first vice-president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and Alternate Member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, and Valentin Falin, Alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee and head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, had a meeting with the delegation of the African National Congress of South Africa in Kremlin on March 11. The delegation included ANC General Secretary Alfred Nzo, and members of the National Executive Committee J. Slovo, J. Nkadimeng, J. Modise, T. Mbeki, C. Hani and B. Mankasi, and headed by ANC President Oliver Tambo.

Welcoming the delegation, Lukyanov expressed solidarity with the ANC, the oldest and most prestigious political organization of the country's majority, which is working for a single, democratic and non-racist state in South Africa.

The participants of the meeting noted that the current international positive processes are clearly manifested in Southern Africa, where the agreement of settlement in South-West Africa has opened up the way to independence in Namibia, and peace and security in Angola.

Tambo emphasised that the situation in South Africa has not improved, as racist regime, the source of tension and conflicts is still there and Pretoria's "reforms" cannot change its anti-democratic essence. In these conditions the ANC calls on all opponents of apartheid to join their forces, as it deems it necessary to intensify the struggle for liberation. The Soviet side noted that apartheid was a shameful anomaly depriving South Af-



ricans of the freedom of choice; this anomaly must be ended once and for all.

The meeting was unanimous that elimination of apartheid by political means would meet the South Africans' long-term interests. A safe and reliable future for South Africans, including whites, can only be secured if the racist order is annulled.

Erradication of racism is a common international task. The participants in the meeting demanded that Nelson Mandela and the other political prisoners in South Africa be released. They spoke in favour of stepping up the international campaign against Pretoria's racist policy and for using effective sanctions against the apartheid regime in keeping with UN decisions.