

30-9-87
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South Africa - Politics - Home - Liberation Movements - ANC

Stamp out necklacing, Tambo tells

AUSTRALIAN 30-9-87

HARARE: The president of the African National Congress (ANC), Mr Oliver Tambo, yesterday told South African delegates to an anti-apartheid conference here that the gruesome form of revenge killing known as "necklacing" had to be stopped.

Speaking in a closed meeting to the 300 South African delegates who came to Harare for the conference on Children Under Apartheid, Mr Tambo made it "crystal clear" that the ANC wanted an end to the practice.

Necklacing, which has been

frequently used by black mobs against people accused of collaborating with the white minority Government, consists of placing a petrol-filled tyre around the victim's neck and then setting it alight.

According to South African delegates at the conference, Mr Tambo urged them to spread the word in South Africa that the ANC did not want the use of necklacing by anti-apartheid activists to continue.

Mr Tambo said the gruesome nature of necklace kil-

lings made it difficult for him to counter accusations, particularly in Western countries such as Australia and the United States, that his organisation condoned inhuman practices.

ANC

ANC rejects plea on violence

AST 2-10-87

LUSAKA: The president of the banned African National Congress (ANC), Mr Oliver Tambo, yesterday rejected a plea by Archbishop Desmond Tutu to put an end to the organisation's armed struggle against South Africa.

Mr Tambo said the request had been turned down because South Africa had continued to

commit "acts of violence and massacre of the unarmed, oppressed masses under the umbrella of an illegal, inhumane state of emergency which does not create conducive conditions for political negotiations".

Archbishop Tutu, leader of the Anglican Church in southern Africa, made the appeal during a visit to Zambia in

May when he had talks with officials of the ANC, which has its headquarters in Lusaka.

Mr Tambo, who did not meet Archbishop Tutu at that time, said: "Some people think armed struggle should not continue while so many agree and support us. But, there can be no doubt that our armed struggle is legitimate and there can be no doubt about this at all."

He said the ANC would continue to wage the armed offensive against South Africa "as long as there is nothing to replace it".

Accused

Meanwhile, Mr Tambo's recent condemnation of "necklacing" - when an oil-soaked tyre is placed around a person's neck and set alight - has been seen to be a rebuke, at least by implication, to Mrs Winnie Mandela, wife of the jailed ANC leader, Mr Nelson Mandela.

Many blacks accused of collaborating with Pretoria have been necklaced.

Mr Tambo called for an end to such killings last week when he addressed an international anti-apartheid conference in Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe.

Mrs Mandela told a meeting in a black township in April last year: "With our 'necklaces' we shall liberate this country."

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