

OTP/030/0249/16

MEETING WITH THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER ON 24/2/89

The meeting was at the request of the High Commissioner who was instructed by his superiors in London to inform our President about their position regarding some sections of the statement issued re Olivia Forsyth.

The British positions are as follows:

- (a) Olivia Forsyth was born in the United Kingdom.
- (b) The fact that she was given a British passport, to which she is entitled, does not mean that the British Government approves of what she does.
- (c) What Olivia has done is not a violation of UK laws, it is not against the UK. The Forsyth affair originates in South Africa and not in the UK.
- (d) It is the duty of the UK Government to give assistance to its citizens wherever they may be.
- (e) The UK Government gave assistance to its citizen when it asked the Angolan Government for safe conduct to London for Forsyth. Britain did not hand her over to her handlers as the statement claims. In London Olivia was free to do what she wanted.
- (f) The High Commissioner further informed us that the Foreign Office had sent extremely strong representations to the South African Government after Olivia was officially exposed as an agent.

In response our President stated:-

- (a) that Olivia was a British citizen in legal terms only but in reality she was a South African citizen. She only applied for a British passport on instructions from her handlers in order to launch the JFA project to infiltrate the Frontline states and spy on the ANC.
- (b) that the very High Commissioner was informed of Olivia's real activities by the President himself in November 1988 while she was still in the British Embassy in Luanda - there was no response to this from the High Commissioner. The same happened in Luanda when Comrade Zuma met the officials at the UK Embassy in Luanda. This is the reason for the harsh tone of the statement. The President welcomed the representations of the Foreign Office to South African Government saying if this had come earlier the tone of our statement would have been different.

- (c) that Olivia has neither relatives nor friends in the UK and that is why her father travelled to London to meet her. Her services were solely to the South African regime and not to the UK. When she arrived at Jan Smuts Airport her handler was there to meet her. This is why the statement says the British took her from Luanda and handed her over to her handlers in South Africa.
- (d) that the British were deeply involved in that they issued a passport to Olivia in South Africa, the in Zimbabwe and finally in Luanda. The one issued in Zimbabwe would have allowed her to travel to many African countries as it had no connections with South Africa.