

MESSAGE OF NELSON MANDELA. PRESIDENT OF THE
AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS ON THE OCCASION OF
HIS ACCEPTANCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ACTIVIST AWARD.

MAY 12, 1993

MR CHAIRMAN

MR GLIETSMAN

COMRADE WALTER SISULU, DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE AN C
MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE ANC.

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

COMRADES AND FRIENDS

I AM VERY DELIGHTED TO BE HERE WITH YOU TONIGHT AND FEEL
GREATLY HONOURED TO RECEIVE THE INTERNATIONAL ACTIVIST
AWARD FROM THE GLIETSMAN FOUNDATION. THE HONOUR
BESTOWED ON ME BY YOUR ESTEEMED FOUNDATION TESTIFIES TO
THE RECOGNITION OF THE EFFORTS OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL
CONGRESS AND ALL THE DEMOCRATIC F ORCES IN OUR COUNTRY,
STRUGGLING TO DISMANTLE A SYSTEM THAT HAS BEEN DECLARED
A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY.

WE OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS FEEL GREATELY
HONOURED TO HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED TO BE AMONGST THE FIRST
OF THOSE RECOGNIZED BY YOUR FOUNDATION INTERNATIONALLY,
FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION IN THE COURSE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE,
PEACE AND DEMOCRACY.

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WE WANT TO PUT IT ON RECORD THAT IT REMAINS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THIS GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF ALL CITIZENS INCLUDING OUR MEMBERS AND LEADERS. WE HOWEVER WISH TO WARN THAT THE PATIENCE OF OUR PEOPLE CANNOT REMAIN ENDLESS AS THEY CONTINUE TO BE SUBJECTED TO BRUTALISATION AND MURDER.

MR CHAIRMAN

WE ARE CONVINCED THAT THERE IS URGENT NEED TO AGREE ON AN ELECTION DATE AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MULTIPARTY TRANSITIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, A SUBCOUNCIL ON SECURITY AND DEFENCE, AN INDEPENDENT ELECTORAL COMMISSION AND AN INDEPENDENT MEDIA COMMISSION. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TRANSITIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IS IMPORTANT AS THIS W'ILL PROVIDE THE MECHANISM FOR ALL POLITICAL PARTIES TO JOINTLY ADDRESS MATTERS SUCH AS CONTROL OF ALL ARMED FORCES AND POLICE, WHICH WOULD MAKE A DECISIVE CONTRIBUTION IN HELPING US TO CONTAIN AND REDUCE THE LEVEL OF VIOLENCE.

THE ANC REMAINS COMMITTED TO ENSURING THAT OUR MOVEMENT FORWARD TO A DEMOCRATIC SOUTH AFRICA CONTINUES TO GAIN MOMENTUM AND REMAINS UNSTOPPABLE. MOST IMPORTANTLY, WE WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY A FULL AND DYNAMIC ROLE WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ANTI APARTHEID MOVEMENT AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD TO REMOVE THE SCOURGE OF APARTHEID, AND TO ENSURE THAT SOUTH AFRICA BECOMES A MEMBER OF A DEMOCRATIC WORLD ORDER WHERE ALL ARE CHERISHED EQUALLY.

IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO ACCEPT THIS PRESTIGIOUS AND IMPORTANT AWARD.

THANK YOU.

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