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February 4, 1988

Mr. Thabo Mbeke
Director of the Department of Information
and Publicity;
Member of the Board of the National Executive
The African National Congress
P.O. Box 31791
Lusaka, Republic of Zambia

Dear Thabo:

It has been ages since I have been in touch with you. I have kept abreast of things through Johnnie and others, and was especially pleased to have had a meeting with President Tambo in London during my visit there in January. I hope all goes well with you.

I wanted to bring you up-to-date about the media meeting that we are putting together in London at the Commonwealth Secretariat in March. I gave O.R. a set of the materials about the meeting when we met. At this time, we expect an extremely good turnout of American, British, Canadian and South African journalists. All of the top editors or foreign editors from British publications will attend, along with about 15 Americans, including both Tony and Flora Lewis, Charlayne Hunter-Cault, Jim Hoagland, Les Payne, and people from TIME, NEWSWEEK, Wall Street Journal, etc. South Africa will be represented by Gabu Tugwana, Ameen Akhalwaya, Rashid Seria, Anton Harber, Henie Vanderventer, Harvey Tyson, John Qualane and others that we have yet to confirm. Four from Canada will be there, too. Frank Chikane will speak at luncheon on the second day. The lunchoen will be hosted by the Association of British Editors, one of the co-sponsors of the meeting. We have invited the chairman of the BBC to open the meeting on the night of the 11th.

The London meeting is a follow up to the one that we put together at Harvard last April. I'm enclosing another copy of the report of that conference for your information.

I will continue to keep you informed. I will arrive in London on the 9th and be there through the 13th or 14th. Howard Simons, David Astor, Anthony Sampson and I have a meeting scheduled on the whole issue of setting up some structure to get news out of South Africa.

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We have much to talk about when we meet which, I hope, is some time soon. With all best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Ferrari

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