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AFRICAN
NATIONAL CONGRESS

ANC PRESS STATEMENT ON THE FORTHCOMING TRIAL OF WINNI E MANDELA

The NEC of the ANC regards the trial of Comrade Nomzamo Winnie Mandela, due to start on 4 February 1991, as part o£ a pattern o£ harassment and persecution to which Comrade Winnie has been subjected for the last 30 years, both as a liberation activist in her own right, and as the wife of our Deputy President, Comrade Nelson Mandela.

We are especially shocked by the way the case against Comrade Winnie Mandela has been accompanied by an orchestrated campaign through the media to pre-judge the facts. We have no doubt that elements opposed to the peace process and the agreements alreacily reached are manipulating the issues surrounding this trial for blatant political purposes.

This conclusion is reinforced by the history of the whole process against Comrade Winnie Mandela, It is no accident that the

various steps taken in preparation for the trail coincided with major political events and issues connected with the process of negotiations, and at a time when the ANC's reputation was winning greater and greater acclaim.

Proceeding with this trial and with the other political trials presently under way constitutes a blatant harassment of the ANC

and of the Individuals concerned and is in breach of the spirit of the agreements entered Into between the Government and the

ANC

The NEC of the ANC demands an end to all political trials,

Including all those currently in preparation. We call upon the people to express their solidarity with Comrade Winnie and all other political triallsts. And, on behalf of the entire membership of the ANC, we extend our full support to our Deputy President, Nelson Mandela, and to comrade Winnie Mandela, at this time of stress.

Issued by-

Alfred Niso

Secretary General, African National Congress 2 5 January, 1991

The People Shall Govern!

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Press Statement of the African National Congress•15th February 1991.

On Tuesday 12 February 1991, a delegation of the ANC, led by its Deputy-President, Comrade Nelson Mandela, met with a delegation of the South African government, led by State President De Klerk, in Cape Town- ' ':'

After lengthy discussions agreement was reached on the Report of the Working Group established under Paragraph 3 of the Pretoria Minute, regarding the ANC*a suspension of all armed actions

The two parties to that meeting are today releasing that report to the media simultaneously.

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In terms of the agreement the ANC has assumed a number of obligations with respect to the suspension of armed action. As set in the agreement, these include the suspension of all attacks by means of armaments, firearms, explosives or incendiary devices and the suspension of all acts of infiltration of men and material. Af, r.

The ANC has also undertaken not to create any new underground military structures and jt will cease all military training of combatants in Bide South Africa.

For its part the government has accepted that the use of force

to gain greater leverage over the transition process is illegitimate and that it shall henceforth respect the right of all South Africans to peacefully assemble to express their vilbws, their grievances and their political or social aspirations through various forms of mass action. In recognition of the ANC * s decision to suspend armed action, the government has undertaken to instruct its security services and counter-insurgency units, in keeping with the spirit of this agreement, to desist from harassment of ANC members, supporters and members of Umkhonto WeSizwc.

A specialised liaison committee shall be set up, consisting of representatives of the government arid the ANC to ensure that such cases as may arise, despite this agreement are timeously attended

to.

The ANC initiated the August 6th Pretoria Summit with the express purpose of expediting the removal of obstacles to the negotiating

The People Shall Govern!

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ANC PRESS STATEMENT ON TJIE CCB

The report that Auditor General Peter Wronsley nas found that the CCB spent over Ri^million 'Without authorisation gives some indication of the true extent of this secret am of the state. Millions were evidently spent even after Magnus Malan announced that the CCB had beer, disbanded in March 1990.

As taxpayers, it is the right of the people of South Africa to know what authorised spending took place and what these monies were spent on.

Despite repeated official statements that the CCB has been disbanded, there is nothing to indicate that its operations have ceased. The parcel bomb sent to Dirk Coetzee that billed Bheki Mlangeni. for exatppie. was posted in May 1990

An internal audit is clearly insufficient. The issues at stake here are not merely financial. State funds .raised on the tar-rands of all South Africans, have been employed to terrorise, intimidate, maim and murder citizens of this country for voicing demands that the government today concedes are legitimate. We demand that those responsible be called to account for the activities of the death squads they established, There must be a verifiable, public disbandment of all such bodies - the CCB, the Askaris and other death squads. Only in this way can the public know that such criminal activity has indeed been brought to an end,

Unless this is done we have no other option chan to hold the entire South African Cabinet responsible for the continued shielding of these killers,

Issued by

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25 February 1991

ANC NATAL MIDLANDS WSXSIOM ?* & \$ STATEMENT

Th* AWC Nat&j Midlands region- is shocked to hear of the assassination of chief Mhiafcunaima Maphuntulc outside his home last night. Yet another key figure has fallen victim to the death squatfR who are defending apartheid.

Chief Maphumuio was a brave and tireless opponent of apartheid. He was not afraid to champion the cause of the oppressed people of Natal »nd South Africa, even in •she face of extrema adversary. In pursuing this and, he ana his family suffered much personal hardship - he was physically assaulted; there war* numerous attempts on his life; hia hoiue in Table Mountain was burnt and his position a# Chief was threatened. Chief Mephumuio picked up the spear carried-by Kings Cetahwayo and aabata and Chiefs Bhambata and Sekhukhuni and many others in the struggle to free the people of South Africa ixon exploitation and oppression. His membership ctnd support of the ANC continued the tradition set by Chief Albert Luthuli.

It is distressing that Chief MaphumUi# was murdered so soon after the peace talks between the AHC and tnkatha. If the state is serious about peace in Natal, it wuet find his killers ana bring them to justice. Chief Maphumulo cannot join the ran** of the many thousands o£ people murdered in Natal whose killers have

remained free and unimpeded.

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ANC PRESS STATEMENT ON THE KESTRUCTURING OF THE POLJ.C

That the South African Police and the security forces in general need to be restructured to make them accountable, more responsible to the community they serve create the means by which they are able to play a meaningful role in the new South Africa, is without question.

The ANC has made a number.oi' suggestions, occasioned by its experienc in the first year of its unbanning, to the government as to how the role of the police can be changed.

One of the crucial issues facing the South African police is their lack of legitimacy, and the refusal by the oppressed in our society to accept them given the bitter experience of the past.

The ANC readily accepts the need tor better training of the police and notes the recognition of the Minister of this reality. But, yet again, the measures proposed to correct the situation are those of the Nationalist Pany alone* rather than those of the community the police are intended to serve, The amalgamation of the Security Police and the Security Branch into the Crime Combating and Investigation Section will need further comment once we have seen the terms of reference of this new unit, and the role it will play in the future.

The ANC reiterates its call for a publicly determined Code of Conduct for the police, as well as the establishment of a commission to enforce such a code.

The police will continue to lack credibility as loug they are perceived of as par! of ihe ongoing violence, and as long as aeat. squads have not been publicly disbanded.

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ANC PKESS STATEMENTON THE II FTXNG OF THE

moratorium on hangings

The ANC condemns th£ lifting of t,he aoratortuio on hanging# ta South Africa, This moratorium was introduced with gra*t fanfare.

laat year 43 part of the government's efforts to create nnataosphere Conducive to a negotiated settiecient in South Africa. ^ *•

The government announces at the time that a Commisaion of Inquiry was to be instituted to investigate the death penalty and,to recommendations. The ANC would have expected that aue& \ commission call for opinions from the public, and ensure a public, and representative aebate on the question. No such public debate has taken place. New the government has reverted to the situation that existed before 2 February* 1930.

What is even more cruel is that fact tr.at those *no are facing the death penalty were gxven false hope. It is reasonable for the public and those directly £ffec\ed to feel cheated.

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