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African National Congress

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DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

ANC RESPONSE TO PRESIDENT DE KLERK'S INSISTENCE TO FORCE THE FURTHER INDEMNITY BILL THROUGH PARLIAMENT

The African National Congress wants to state clearly that there Is no relation between the Further Indemnity am and the Record of Understanding that was reached by the ANC and the government during the Summit of 28m September. De KIerk has acknowledged he has the power to implement the agreements reached in the Accord. No further legislation is necessary In this regard. and we will hold President De Klerk to the undertakings made In the accord. It Is disingenuous of De Klerk to try and manufacture a link to save himself trom the embarrassment at not even beIng able to get the Bill accepted In his own Trl-Cameral Partiament. The ANC believes that President De Kierk's desperate attempts to force the Further Indemnity Bill through Perilament Is an Indication ot the seriousness of the crimes he Is trying to prevent becoming known. This should set alarm bells ringing for all concerned South Atricane. What terrible crimes have been committed in defence ot apartheid. that de Klerk is so scared will become public? For the sake of national reconcilietion there must be public acknowledgement ot the crimes committed. The ANC once again repeat the warning that we will nullity any amnesty

legislation that is Introduced by this government.

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22 October 1992

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Many organisations are demanding that the list of names submitted to ANC President Nelson Mandela of those accused oi acts of torture against tormer detainees held in ANC detention centres be made public.

. The Commission Fleport stated quite clearly that It did not have the opportunity to hear evidence from those named in this way. At the ANC press conference. Mr Mandela reiterated that the ANC was seriously considering the setting up of an independent commission to continue with this investigation.

It is a basic principle of justice that those who stand accused have the Opportunity to be heard. In the interests of Justice. it would be incorrect to simply release a list of names which could, and In fact does, include people in no way connected with the security department of the ANC. For instance, one oi the names is of a person who was on Hobben Island from the early 1960s until 1989.

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. Department of Information and Publicity PO Box 61884 Marshailtown 2107 22 October. 1992 The People Shall Govern!

'36 OCT 192 28:88 811 834 1819 P.1/19 - African N ational Congress 51 Plein Street Tel: (011)3307277 Johannesburg 2001 F0: (011) \$3 070 PO Box 61084 Tobe 421252

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The ANO considers follow up to the Report at the Commission of Enquiry Into Compiainte by former ANC prisoners to be urgent't'tand important. Pursuant of the Report. the ANC has begun the process of establishing an independent commission of enquiry as undertaken by President Nelson Mandela at the press conference on Monday. 19 October. 1992. However. with regard to publishing the net of names submitted by the Commission, the ANC reiterates that it Is a basic principle of justice that those who stand accused have the opportunity to be heard. tt would be incorrect to simply release a llet of names so lnacurate that it even . Includes names of people who could in no way be' connected teeny of the:-ellegatlone made.

The story uses the Report of the Commission of Inquiry as a basis for repeating unsubstantiated atlegations and accusations. This is a disservice to Weekly Mail readers. those whose names they list and the Interests of Justice.

It Is regrettable that a newspaper such as the Weekly Mail, with It: outstanding record of exposing abuse and corruption. should not have seen tlt to pay attention to accugacy in the detail of the repon headlined 'The names the ANC tried to hide'. The names listed. some of which are completely unknown to us. are cleedy drawn from a magazine article published In 1990. (Searchlight SA. vol.2. No.1. July 1990) and therefore eveileble for all to read.

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