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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 Klerk 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 from the embarrassment at not even being able to get the Bill accepted in his own Trl-Cameral Parliament. The ANC believes that President De Klerk's desperate attempts to force the Further Indemnity Bill through Parliament is an indication of the seriousness of the crimes he is trying to prevent becoming known. This should set alarm bells ringing for all concerned South Africans. What terrible crimes have been committed in defence of apartheid. that de Klerk is so scared will become public? For the sake of national reconciliation there must be public acknowledgement of the crimes committed.

The ANC once again repeat the warning that we will nullify any amnesty legislation that is introduced by this government.

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# The People Shall Govern!

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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 reiease 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. (Searchllght SA. vol.2. No.1. July 1990) and therefore eveileble for all to read.

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