

F

the NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE

40 Bowling Green Lane, London, EC1R 0NE, United Kingdom
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FOR THE RELEASE OF ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS & DETAINEES

To All National Reception Committees

2 April 1990

From: Siphon Pityana

RE: CONSULTATION OF NRC

You will remember that in our previous correspondence to you regarding arrangements for "THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUTE FOR A FREE SOUTH AFRICA" concert of 16 April 1990, we indicated the possibility of a meeting of the National Reception Committees. I am now able to confirm, that this meeting will take place on 15 April, between 15.00 hrs and 17.00 hrs. In the light of current developments, the meeting will serve as an opportunity for the NRC representatives to receive a briefing from the leaders of the ANC on the role of international solidarity and the ANC perspective for the future.

Each NRC will be represented by no more than four (4) delegates. We hope this will help inform the strategy of the solidarity movement for the coming months. Please urgently send us the names of the delegates that will be coming and where they can be contacted in London. Your speedy response will facilitate organisation immensely.

CONVENER Archbishop Trevor Huddleston CR • all correspondence to be sent to the **CO-ORDINATOR** Siphon Pityana

PATRONS

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39th President of the USA
Mr Jerry Dammers
Musician, Great Britain

Mr Abdou Diouf
President of Senegal
Fr Miguel d'Escoto
Foreign Minister of Nicaragua
Rt Hon Malcolm Fraser
Former Prime Minister of Australia
Maj Gen Joseph N Garbo
President of the UN General Assembly
Mr Rued Gullit
European Footballer of the Year -
1987, The Netherlands
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His Excellency Salim Ahmed Salim
Secretary-General of the OAU
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NEC member of the ANC
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Member of the USSR Supreme Soviet
Archbishop Desmond Tutu
Archbishop of Cape Town
Mr Franz Vranitzky
Federal Chancellor of Austria

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comité

Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee
Mr. Siphon Pityana, Co-ordinator
40 Bowling Green Lane
LONDON EC1R 0NE
UK

per fax

Our. Ref.No.: 90/071/ph/fax
Date: 30 March 1990
Subject: Report Welcome Mandela Committee the Netherlands

Dear Siphon,

Please find enclosed the final report of the Welcome Mandela Committee. It has been discussed with the partners in the Working Group Welcome Mandela Committee. For your information, we do not have more information about degrees, honours etc. as given to you before.

We wish you success with finalising your report.

With kind regards,
for the Welcome Mandela Committee,

Peter Hermes.

- cc - Mr. Kumar Sanjay, ANC-representative in the Netherlands;
- Holland Committee on Southern Africa;
- Working Group Kairos.

Anti Apartheids Beweging Nederland
Komitee Zuidelijk Afrika
Werkgroep Kairos
i.s.m. African National Congress (ANC)

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REPORT WELCOME MANDELA COMMITTEE THE NETHERLANDS

Amsterdam, 30 March 1990

The Welcome Mandela Committee in the Netherlands was formed just after the appeal by Archbishop Trevor Huddleston CR to establish National Reception Committees in various countries. The initiative for the establishment of the Welcome Mandela Committee was taken by the ANC-representative in the Netherlands, Comrade Kumar Sanjay. The list of members of the Welcome Mandela Committee is enclosed.

A working group of the Welcome Mandela Committee was formed and consisted of:

- Mr. Kumar Sanjay, ANC-representative in the Netherlands;
- Mr. Erik van den Bergh, Working Group Kairos;
- Mr. Peter Hermes, Dutch Anti-Apartheid Movement;
- Mr. Kees de Pater, Holland Committee on Southern Africa.

Two major events related to the release of Nelson Mandela had been organised by the Welcome Mandela Committee:

1. A massive rally in Amsterdam on the very day of the release of Nelson Mandela (11 February 1990);
2. A festival at Dam Square in the centre of Amsterdam on the first saturday after the release of Nelson Mandela (17 February 1990).

Furthermore, the Welcome Mandela Committee initiated activities all over the country, but the responsibility for those activities was in the hands of local anti-apartheid groups. To mention a few cities where festivities took place: Alkmaar, Apeldoorn, Arnhem, Eindhoven, 's-Gravenhage, Groningen, Nijmegen, Rotterdam, Tilburg, Utrecht, Wageningen and Zwolle.

On February 11, the Netherlands was in a mood of joy and excitement. The Welcome Mandela Committee organised a mass rally in Amsterdam. More than 20.000 people were jubilating the release by singing, dancing and toy-toying in the streets of the capital of the Netherlands. They were invited by TV and bell ringing of churches to participate. On the Leidse Square, the touristic centre of the city, flamboyant speeches were delivered by the ANC-representative, the mayor of Amsterdam, E. van Thijn, and by Prof. B.Goudzwaard, a well-known christian politician in the Netherlands. Mayor van Thijn renamed Leidse Square Nelson Mandela Square for one week. The rally ended with the CASA-choir singing Nkosi Sikelele.

The whole day trams and buses in Amsterdam and many other cities had ANC- and Dutch flags jointly flying on top of it. Many Dutch flags were flying from buildings all over the country. The TV was present the whole afternoon and covered the festivities in Amsterdam.

On Sundays in February, in many churches all over the country attention was paid to the release of Nelson Mandela. It was mentioned during masses.

On February 17, on Dam Square in Amsterdam -in front of the Royal Palace- a festival was held organised by the Welcome Mandela Committee. Although the weather was not very co-operative, there

was an average of at least 5.000 people joining the festival. Not only rain interspersed with sunny periods at that day, but also music with speeches. Main speaker was ANC-member Dennis Goldberg from London, who delivered an inspiring speech. Other speakers were Mr. D.C.Mulder, chairperson of the Council of Churches in the Netherlands, Vervy February (poems) and the Chairpersons of the three anti-apartheids movements: Conny Braam, Sietse Bosgra and Cor Groenendijk. The music was from Sarafina, the Nits, Mano Negra and Hans and Candy Dulfer Band. There were stands of the Welcome Mandela Committee and the anti-apartheid movements. The day was presented by a member of the Welcome Mandela Committee and well-known TV-personality in the Netherland, Ms. Gerda Havertong. The day was sponsored and subsidized by numerous organisations. A list of those organisations is included.

From the 11th of February till the 25th all over the country similar festivities were organised.

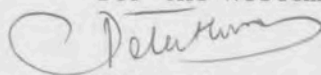
A last minor activity of the Welcome Mandela Committee was the organisation of a press conference and a meeting with members of the Welcome Mandela Committee, the South African community in the Netherlands, and members of the Anti Apartheid Movements with Nelson Mandela at Schiphol Airport during Mr. Mandela's brief transfer on his way to Stockholm. At the very end the whole programme was cancelled, though he met representatives from the South African community and the Anti Apartheid movements.

TV, radio and newspapers paid a lot of attention to the release of Nelson Mandela and the activities in the Netherlands around his release.

During the period around the release of Nelson Mandela funds were collected in the Netherlands for the ANC. The funds were especially collected to help the ANC to build up its structures inside South Africa and to help it with its information work, such as Radio Freedom. It was an initiative of the Dutch anti-apartheid organisations: Dutch Anti-Apartheid Movement, Holland Committee on Southern Africa, Working Group Kairos and Omroep voor Radio Freedom (Broadcast workers for Radio Freedom).

During the campaign 700.000 leaflets with the appeal were distributed with a daily and several weeklies or monthly publications. In total in a period of three weeks 130.000 US Dollars were collected for the ANC. This initiative was taken before Nelson Mandela made his appeal to the international community to support the ANC financially for the return of the ANC in exile to the country and for the opening of ANC offices in South Africa.

We wish you success with finalising your report;
comerately greetings,
for the Welcome Mandela Committee,



Peter Hermes.

annexes: - list of members of the Welcome Mandela Committee

- list of sponsors of the Welcome Mandela Committee

Annex I: Members of the Welcome Mandela Committee

- Prof.Dr.Th.C.van Boven (University of Maastricht, Human Rights specialist);
- Frans Bruggen (flute player);
- Prof.Dr.B.Goudzwaard (christian politician);
- Ruud Gullit (soccer player);
- H.Hofstede (chairperson christian trade unions);
- Prof.Dr.L.de Jong (specialist Second World War);
- Freek de Jonge (cabaret artist);
- Jeroen Krabbe (actor);
- Dr.D.C.Mulder (chairperson Council of Churches);
- M.Rabbae (chairperson Dutch Centre for Foreigners in the Netherlands);
- Mathilde Santing (singer);
- A.Soetendorp (rabbi);
- Johan Stekelenburg (chairperson Trade Unions Congress);
- Sienie Strikwerda-van Klinken (chairperson Women for Peace);
- E.van Thijn (Mayor city of Amsterdam);
- Jan Wolkers (writer);
- Max van den Berg (for co-financing organisations);
- Sietse Bosgra (chairperson Holland Committee on Southern Africa);
- Conny Braam (chairperson Dutch Anti-Apartheid Movement);
- Cor Groenendijk (chairperson Working Group Kairos).

Annex II: Sponsors of the Welcome Mandela Committee

- Accountantsbureau Dubois & Co.;
- Algemene Spaarbank Nederland;
- Commissie Ontwikkelingssamenwerking Amsterdam;
- Evert Vermeer Stichting;
- Facilitair Bedrijf van Nederlands Omroep Bedrijf;
- Federatie Nederlandse Vakbeweging;
- Firma Kuijf & Zn. BV;
- Focus Showequipment BV;
- Gedeputeerde Staten van de Provincie Noord-Holland;
- Groen Links;
- Haella Stichting;
- Humanistisch Instituut voor Ontwikkelingssamenwerking;
- Interkerkelijke Coördinatie Commissie Ontwikkelingsprojecten;
- Nederlandse Organisatie voor Internationale Ontwikkelingssamenwerking;
- Nieuwe Kerk Amsterdam;
- Partij van de Arbeid;
- SNV: Organisatie voor Ontwikkelingssamenwerking en Bewustwording;
- X min Y Beweging.

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M e m o r a n d u m

On the activities of the Welcome Mandela Committee in the Netherlands and other activities of the Dutch people in relation to the Mandela-family

1. The Welkom Mandela Comité

The "Welkom Mandela Comité" was formed on the eve of the release of comrade Mandela, and was initiated by the Anti-Apartheid Movement Netherlands, the Holland Committee on Southern Africa and the working group Kairos in cooperation with the ANC-office in Amsterdam.

21 Prominent Dutch people took a seat in the Comité:

Prof. dr. TH. van Boven, professor in International Relationships of the University of Maastricht (southern part of Holland) and former advisor on Human Rights to the U.N.;

Frans Brüggén, leading classical musician and conductor of the international (but Holland based) Orchestra of the 18th Century;

Bob Goudswaard, leading member of the Christian Democratic Party;

Ruud Gullit, most famous Dutch soccer player, captain of the Dutch national team, now playing for A.C. Milan in Italy;

Gerda Havertong, singer and actress, amongst others working for Dutch tv;

H. Hofstede, chairman of the Christian Trade Union Federation CNV;

Prof. dr. L. de Jong, expert on the history of the Second World War, publicized a large contingent of books on the issue;

Freek de Jonge, leading Dutch comedian;

Jeroen Krabbé, Dutch film actor and painter, who amongst other played the role of Joe Slovo in the movie A World apart;

Dr. D.C. Mulder, chairman of the Dutch Council of Churches;

M. Rabbae, director of the Dutch organisation against (racial) discrimination;

Mathilde Santing, Dutch jazz singer;

A. Soetendorp, progressive rabbi;

Johan Stekelenburg, chairman of the leading Dutch trade union federation FNV;

Sienie Strikwerda-van Klinken, leader of the Dutch anti-nuclear movement;

E. van Thijn, mayor of Amsterdam;

Jan Wolkers, leading Dutch novelist and painter/graphical designer;

/2

*Anti Apartheids Beweging Nederland
Komitee Zuidelijk Afrika
Werkgroep Kairos
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Max van den Berg, representing the Dutch co-financing organizations;
Sietse Bosgra, leader of the Holland Committee on Southern Africa;
Conny Braam, president of the Anti-Apartheid Movement Netherlands;
Cor Groenendijk, chairman of the working group Kairos.

The Welkom Mandela Comité organized a demonstration in the Amsterdam City Center on the very day of the release of Nelson Mandela. Although the demonstration was organized overnight only, some 20.000 people participated. The demonstrators, including a very high turn up of black people (far more than we ever experienced in anti-apartheid campaigns and demonstrations) marched from Dam Square (in front of the Royal Palace and next to the national monument erected to commemorate the people killed in the Second World War) to Leidse Square. Leidse Square was symbolically renamed Mandela Square for a week. Mr. E. van Thijn, mayor of Amsterdam and member of the Welkom Mandela Comité, did the official opening ceremony of the Mandela Square.

Saturday 17 februari the Comité organized an open air political and cultural rally at Dam Square in Amsterdam, where comrade Dennis Goldberg spoke on behalf of the ANC, as well as Anti-Apartheid Movement president Conny Braam, Holland Committee leader Sietse Bosgra and Kairos chairman Cor Groenendijk.

In addition there were cultural performances by the choir of Sarafina (which were bringing their musical for three weeks in Holland), some Dutch bands and the French based mixed band Manu Negra (who are climbing the pop charts of Europe at the moment). All artists performed for free. The program was announced by Gerda Havertong (member of the Comité and television actress), and the Holland based South African poet Vernie February presented a special poem written on the occasion of Nelson Mandela's 70th birthday.

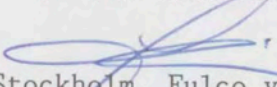
The Welkom Mandela Comité has not yet dismantled itself, since it might organize more activities around the issue of political prisoners in the near future.

2. Other activities

In some countries in Europe it is a tradition to render honorary degrees after respected international political leaders and in particular freedom fighters. This is not so much the case in the Netherlands. However, we could sum up a couple of activities of this kind around the Mandela family.

- a) One of the most important bridges of Arnhem, a town in the east of the Netherlands, was named Nelson Mandela Bridge. The bridge is situated close to the location of the bridge where allied forces and nazi troops clashed during the second world war (when an allied air offensive to liberate Holland was stopped by the nazi's).
- b) Holland is a country of tulips. A firm growing tulips specially developed the Mandela Tulip.
- c) A primary school in Rotterdam was named Nelson Mandela School on the occasion of his 70th birthday.
- d) A park in the town of Enkhuizen (north of Amsterdam) was named the Mandela Park. On the day of the opening of the park the Mandela tree was planted.
- e) The University of Utrecht decided to render an honorary degree to Winnie Mandela.

- f) The Leidse Square in the center of Amsterdam was symbolically renamed into Mandela Square for a week on the day of the release of Mandela. The mayor of Amsterdam mr. E. van Thijn did the official ceremony on the day.
- g) Some 150.000 Dutch people send letters, postcards, drawings, poems etce-
tera to Nelson Mandela on the occasion of his birthday. For a whole week the Anti-Apartheid Movement offices in Amsterdam had the outlook of a post office.
The mailbags were handed over to Winnie Mandela in Soweto by a volunteer of the AAMNetherlands.


Stockholm, Fulco van Aurich (coordinator press team Welkom Mandela Comité),
13 March 1990

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per fax

Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee
att. Mr. Siphon Pityana

Our Ref. No.: 90/025/ph/fax
Date: 16 February 1990
Subject: Dutch 'Welcome Mandela Committee'

Dear Siphon,

Tomorrow the Welcome Mandela Committee (Dutch NRC) organises a big Mandela festival in the heart of the City of Amsterdam. For the ANC Mr. Dennis Goldberg will speak, and on behalf of the Welcome Mandela Committee, Dr. D.C. Mulder, Chairperson of the Council of Churches in the Netherlands. Furthermore, one of the chairpersons of the anti-apartheid organisations will deliver a speech, and we are still trying the vice-prime minister and chairperson of the council on South Africa of the International Socialist movement. Not yet sure.

Sarafina will perform, the in Holland well-known Hans & Candy Dulfer Superband (with many occasional stars), the African music ensemble 'Manu Negra' from Paris, the Nits and many other small contributions. We expect about 15.000 people. Gerda Havertong, a Surinam woman, known from a television series will host the programme.

We received subsidies and sponsoring from various institutions. The programme starts at 13.00 hrs, and will last at least till 17.00 hrs. In the evening, or at night in theatres around the Mandela Square some groups and individuals will perform in theatres around the Mandela square. They are preparing a programme by themselves.

In about other 20 other cities and towns festivities are organised or will be organised, mainly speakers and music.

In Nepal (Asia!) a meeting was organised in the compound of the Prithivi Narayan Campus of Pokhara in order to celebrate the release of Nelson Mandela. About 300 students and individuals gathered at campus on February 12, 1990. They were arrested by about 1.000 police. By entering the campus a large crowd gathered

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at the campus and were indiscriminately beaten up by the police. The arrest of the 300 students and individuals in relation with the release of Nelson Mandela is part of a bigger campaign by the government of Nepal to repress a forthcoming rebellion of opposition groups in the country demonstrating against oppression and the non-party panchayat (councils) system of government with an absolute power by the King (Birendra).

I would like to ask the Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee to protest openly against the arrest of the 300 students and individuals in Pokhara, Nepal. You can address your appeal for the immediate release of the 300 to:

- Narayan Thapa, Minister of State for Home Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Singha Durbar, Kathmandu, Nepal (telegrams to: Minister of Home Affairs, Thapa, Kathmandu, Nepal)
- Badri Prasad Mandal, Minister of Law & Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice, Babar Mahal, Kathmandu, Nepal (telegrams to: Minister of Law & Justice, Kathmandu, Nepal)
- Prime Minister, Marich Man Singh Shrestha, Cabinet Secretariat, Singha Durbar, Kathmandu, Nepal (telegrams to: Prime Minister Shrestha, Kathmandu, Nepal)

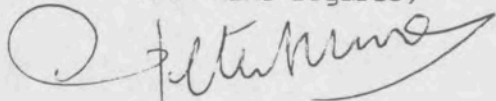
Telexes may be sent to all of the above via the Foreign Ministry, marked for the attention of the relevant authority: 2224 PARARA NP; 2442 MOFA NP.

Copies to:

- Krishna P. Panth, The President, Human Rights Association of Nepal, Supreme Court of Nepal, Supreme Court Building, Kathmandu, Nepal;
 - Justice Trilok Pratap Rana, Chief officer, Special Petitions Department, Narayanhity Royal palace, Durbar Marg, Kathmandu, Nepal;
- and to the diplomatic representative of Nepal in the UK.

You can check the information with the International Secretariat of Amnesty International, Nepal Research Department, Mrs. Kate Hampson, London tel: (0)1-8335246. I checked the information in London via the section office in Amsterdam, after receiving a fax from Nepal.

With kind regards,



Peter Hermes,
on behalf of the Welcome Mandela Committee.

the NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE

40 Bowling Green Lane, London, EC1R 0NE, United Kingdom
Telephone: 01-278 0333 Fax: 01-837 7612 Telex: 267247

FOR THE RELEASE OF ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS & DETAINEES

14th February 1990

TO: ALL NATIONAL RECEPTION COMMITTEES

Following the consultation of the NRCs, on 10th February in London which coincided with the announcement of the date of Mandela's release; we resolved to seek the assurance of all governments that they will not relax both political and economic pressures on the apartheid regime. All the NRCs are therefore urged to immediately seek this assurance from their respective governments especially in view of Nelson Mandela's appeal for such measures to be intensified.

This is particularly urgent for those in the EEC countries in view of the pending meeting of the Council of Ministers of the 20th February which will be discussing Sanctions.

May I also emphasise that the list of honours for Mandela has assumed particular urgency; all NRCs, which have so far not provided us with such a list should do so as quickly as possible. Finally, may I urge you to send us both your plans; and later as comprehensive a report as possible of your activities. If these are video recorded or photographs are taken, please pass them on to us. This will help us immensely in our preparation for a full public report.

Finally all messages to Nelson Mandela can be addressed to:

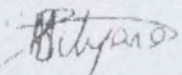
Nelson Mandela
National Reception Committee
6th Floor
National Acceptance House
P O Box 1019
Johannesburg 2000

MANDELA RELEASED!

NOW FREE ALL SOUTH AFRICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS AND DETAINEES!

FREE SOUTH AFRICA NOW!

Yours in struggle,


Siphho Pityana
Co-ordinator

CONVENOR Archbishop Trevor Huddleston CH • all correspondence should be sent to the CO-ORDINATOR Siphho Pityana

PATRONS

Chief Emeke Anyaoku
Secretary-General Designate of the
COPACOM
Mr Willie Brandt
Former Chancellor of the FRG
Mr Jimmy Carter
49th President of the USA

His Excel. Miguel d'Escoto
Foreign Minister of Costa Rica
Rt. Hon. Malcolm Fraser
Former Prime Minister of Australia
Mr Roud Gullit
European Footballer of the Year - 1971
(The Netherlands)
Rt. Hon. Bob Hawke
Prime Minister of Australia

Rt. Hon. Denis Healey
Former Chancellor of the Exchequer
1975-1979
Rev. Jesse Jackson
President & Founder of the
National Rainbow Coalition (USA)
Rt. Hon. Danielle Mitterrand
President Mitterrand Foundation (France)

Mwalimu Julius Nyerere
Former President of Tanzania
Mrs Lisbet Palme
UNICEF Sweden
Mr Cyril Ramaphosa
Secretary-General NCOM(SA)
Chairman NRC(SA)
Sir Shripathi Ramphal
Secretary-General of the Commonwealth

His Excel. Salim Ahmed Salim
Secretary-General of the OAU
Mr Walter Sisulu
Former Secretary-General of the ANC
Archbishop Desmond Tutu
Archbishop of Cape Town

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per fax

Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee
att. Mr. Siphon Pityana

Our: Ref. No. 90/021/ph/fax
Date: 12 February 1990
Subjects: Celebrations release Nelson Mandela

Dear Siphon,

First of all, congratulations with the release of Nelson Mandela. I think, this is a major step forward towards the complete abolition of the apartheid. Still some very difficult steps are laying ahead. But the release of Mr. Mandela as such is the result of decades of struggle by the South African people, the ANC and the pressure from outside. We are very pleased by the strong statements Mr. Mandela made in his first speech in freedom since his release. It underlines the importance of continuation of the struggle and the hypocrite policy of those who are pleading for mitigation of sanctions against the apartheid regime in South Africa. Once again we would like to congratulate the ANC and to support the ongoing struggle against apartheid.

In the Netherlands there was a national mood of joy and excitement about the release of Mr. Mandela. We had life-programmes on T.V., life coverage of the reactions within anti-apartheid circles in the Netherlands etc. The mayor of Amsterdam was in the afternoon at the office of the Dutch Anti-Apartheid movement to celebrate the release jointly with the AAM. In the evening we organised a huge demonstration in Amsterdam. More than 20.000 people celebrated the release in an exciting demonstration ending at the Leidseplein. The ANC-representative in the Netherlands, Mr. Kumar Sanjay delivered a speech for a huge crowd singing and dancing at the Leidseplein. The mayor, Mr. E. van Thijn renamed the Leidseplein Mandelaplein for one week. A huge banner with the word 'Mandelaplein' is hanging on the balcony of the City Theatre. The whole day tram and buses had ANC- and Dutch flags jointly flying on top of it. Many ANC- and Dutch flags were flying from buildings. A spokesman from the Dutch Welcome Mandela Committee (WMC),

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Prof. Dr. B. Goudzwaard, delivered the closing speech, after which the CASA-choir closed the evening with singing and dancing.

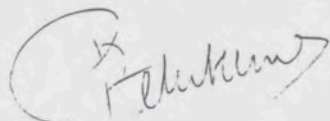
The mayor of Amsterdam is extremely co-operative and the major spokesman of the WMC. He is announcing all the festivities in Amsterdam, the Dutch Ant-Apartheid City.

The whole week all over the country festivals, festivities, from very small to very extensive are organised. We have thousand of telephone calls from enthusiastic people, from groups who wants to join the festival on coming saturday etc. The offer of good bands exceeds the number of locations and opportunities to perform a dozens time. Still the whole programme has to be organised, sponsors and subsidizing organisations are approached, but still there is big gap in the budget for the festival and the WMC on the one hand, and the real costs (although many things are for free) on the other had.

Music, dance and theatre will be performed (this information is still under embargo till friday afternoon). Sarafina has promised an act during the festival day. Many other groups did, but we can assure that Sarafina will perform. On Sunday there are Masses in many churches. We sent a telex with our celebrations to Mr. Mandela. Money has been transferred to the Present for Mr. Mandela (for the structure of the ANC and the communications, e.g. Radio Freedom).

We will inform you more later in this week.

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Peter Hermes', enclosed within a hand-drawn circle.

Peter Hermes.

welkom



comité

per fax

To: Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee
att. Mr. Siphon Pityana, co-ordinator

Our Reference: 90/017/ph/fax
Date: 8 February 1990
Subject: Planning and activities NRC/The Netherlands

Dear Siphon,

As promised I herewith inform you about the planning and activities of the Dutch National reception Committee (the Welcome Mandela Committee: WMC).

On the very day of the release of Nelson Mandela the WMC organises a huge demonstration with dance and music in the heart of the city of Amsterdam. We have asked the CASA-choir in the Netherlands to perform with singing and dancing on a mobile platform. On arrival at the Leidse Square in the heart of the city this square will temporarily be renamed Mandela Square. This will last until the day after the festival. Speakers from the ANC (Mr. Kumar Sanjay, the ANC-representative in the Netherlands) and the WMC (we have asked Ruud Gullit, no reply yet) are asked to deliver a speech.

Similar demonstrations are going to be held in many cities and towns all over the country.

The WMC has been announced in a TV-programme on Sunday, 4 February, by the mayor of Amsterdam, Mr. Ed. van Thijn. Ever since dozens of groups, artists, musicians, individuals etc. have contacted the WMC to offer their free co-operation on the festival day. The activities are planned to vary from pop-music to a small poetry festival etc. The festival day will be organised on the first or second Saturday after the release. As plans are developing it might be possible that the Leidse Square is too small for the number of people expected. We have an option on a big tent at the huge Museum Square, close to the Leidse Square. Most probably the South African Theatre Group Sarafina, will be one of the groups performing on that day.

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Komitee Zuidelijk Afrika
Werkgroep Kairos
i.s.m. African National Congress (ANC)*

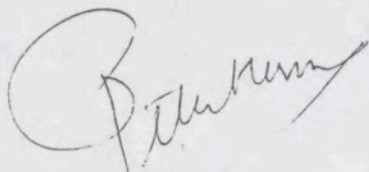
*p/a A.A.B.N. Postbus 10500
1001 EM Amsterdam
telefoon (020) 26 75 25
telefax (020) 23 73 35*

All over the country similar festivals will be organised. The telephone at the secretariat of the WMC is red-hot. Churches at many places will ring their bells just before the demonstrations are going off. In masses on the Sunday after the release or after the festival day the release of Nelson Mandela will be celebrated. Flags are going to be raised on numerous city and town halls, on buses and trams all over the country.

Furthermore, the committees involved in the preparation of the festivities, together with the foundation Radio Freedom organise a fundraising activity, campaign: present for Mandela (i.c. the ANC).

Concerning the festivities around the release of Nelson Mandela the Netherlands is a hive of activities. Most of it will be organised on an ad hoc base. Journalists, Radio, Television, Newspapers are ready to start. The publicity will be very extensive.

Greetings to all and success with your good work.
All the best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Peter Hermes', written in dark ink.

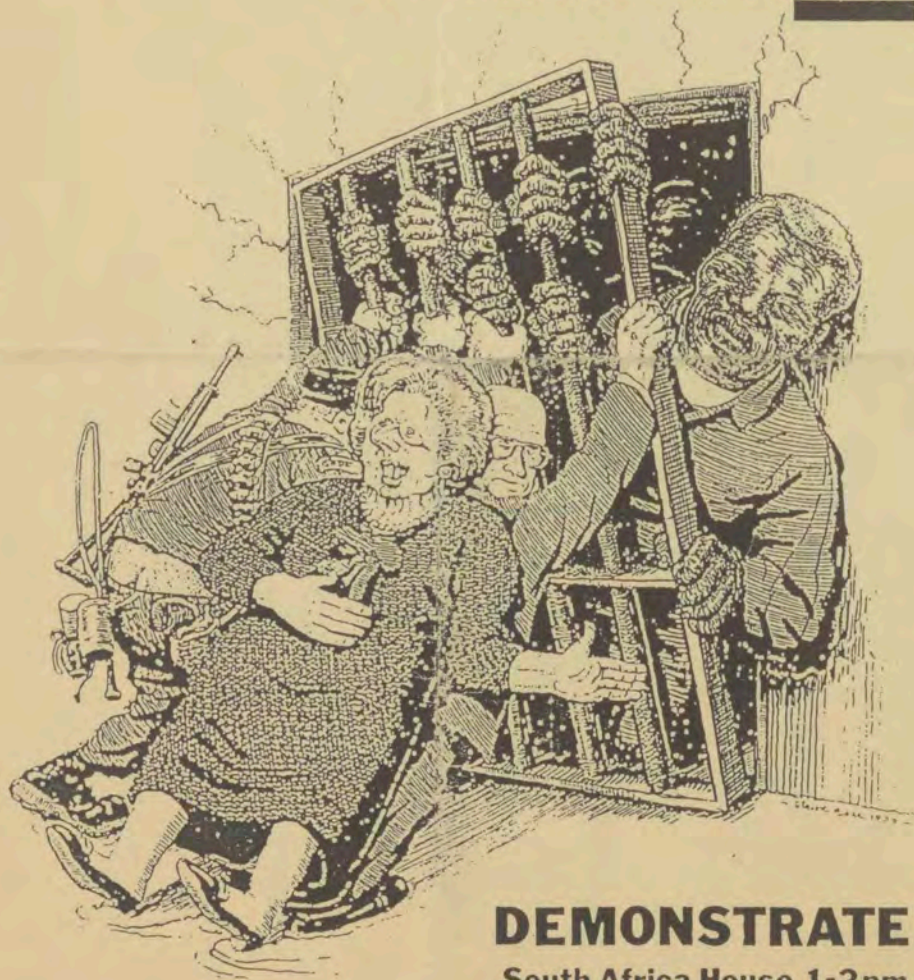
Peter Hermes,
contact person WMC.

id. In the Netherlands there is not such a tradition of honorary degrees etc. We only have a Nelson Mandela school in Rotterdam, a Mandela-bridge in Arnhem and a couple of streetnames in different places. The most remarkable in this is a tulip named after Nelson Mandela.

FREE NELSON MANDELA

Free All South African Political Prisoners!

Free South Africa Now!



DEMONSTRATE

South Africa House 1-2pm

FRIDAY 2 FEB

FREE NELSON MANDELA

FREE ALL SOUTH AFRICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS

FREE SOUTH AFRICA NOW !

The Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee has issued a call for demonstrations to take place throughout the world outside all South African Embassies and Consuls on February 2nd, the date of the opening session of the racist South African parliament. It is widely speculated that President de Klerk may use the opportunity of his speech to indicate when Nelson Mandela will be released.

In response to the international appeal the Nelson Mandela Reception Committee - Britain has called this demonstration outside the racist South African embassy. Please join the protest and add your voice to the worldwide call for Mandela's immediate release.

FUTURE ACTION

On the day an announcement is made of a date for the release of Mandela there will be a demonstration from 6-8pm outside the embassy.

On the actual day of Mandela's release there will be a victory celebration outside the embassy from 6-8pm when we will rededicate ourselves to work for the release of all political prisoners in South Africa and for an end to apartheid.

For further information contact:
Paul Brannen Co-Ordinator NMRC-Britain

the NELSON MANDELA
RECEPTION COMMITTEE - BRITAIN

70 13 Mandela Street, London, NW1 0DW Tel: 01-387 7966 Fax: 01-388 0173

welkom



comité

PER FAX (09/4418377612)

The Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee
Mr. Siphon Pityana
40 Bowling Green Lane
London EC1R ONE
UK

Our Ref. No.: 90/012/ph/fax
Date: 26 January 1990
Subject: Welcome Mandela Committee in the Netherlands

Dear Mr. Siphon,

Three Anti-Apartheid Movements in the Netherlands, the Dutch Anti-Apartheid Movement, the Holland Committee on Southern Africa and Kairos, in close co-operation with the ANC-representative in the Netherlands, have set up a so-called Welcome Mandela Committee. The three organisations and the ANC-representative together form the steering committee implementing the set up of the Welcome Mandela Committee, the organisation of a festival day on the first Saturday after the release of Mr. Mandela, as much as possible publicity, and fundraising activities for a kind of present to the ANC (Mandela present).

In the Welcome Mandela Committee very well-known persons in the Netherlands have been asked to take a place. These persons are representing various sections in Dutch society: churches, trade unions, artists, musicians, writers, t.v.-personalities, anti-apartheid movements etc. On the first of February one prominent member of the Welcome Mandela Committee (most probably the mayor of Amsterdam) will announce the set up of the Committee. Till then there is an embargo on this information for publicity reasons. In name of the committee all festivities will take place as soon as Mr. Mandela is released. An exception is the fundraising which is an activity from the three anti-apartheid movements and the foundation Radio Freedom. The Welcome Mandela Committee will issue a statement in which demands further steps to abolish apartheid in South Africa. The setting of the demands is more or less comparable to the letter of Archbishop Trevor Huddleston CR, Convenor of the NMIRC, dated 2nd January 1990. it

The fundraising will have the aim to strengthen the structures of the ANC and the communication structures, like Radio Freedom.

<i>Anti Apartheids Beweging Nederland</i>	<i>p/a A.A.B.N. Postbus 10500</i>
<i>Komitee Zuidelijk Afrika</i>	<i>1001 EM Amsterdam</i>
<i>Werkgroep Kairos</i>	<i>telefoon (020) 26 75 25</i>
<i>i.s.m. African National Congress (ANC)</i>	<i>telefax (020) 23 73 35</i>

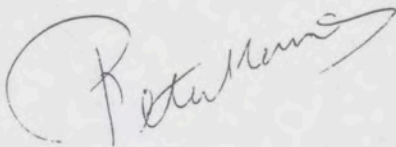
The fundraising will be held in a brief period around Mr. Mandela's release. We ask you to keep this information under embargo till shortly before the release of Mr. Mandela.

The first Saturday after the release we will stimulate activities in all big cities and towns in the Netherlands. The core of the festivities will be in Amsterdam around the centre. Details will be worked out by a special group consisting of members of the steering committee and specialists. Publicity will play a key role. T.V. and Radio are already approached and in principle interested. The City Theatre will be the centre of all activities.

Furthermore, a small demonstration will be held on the 2nd of February in front of the South African embassy in the Netherlands, and we are planning a small activity in the centre of Amsterdam at the very day of the release of Mr. Mandela. These plans will be worked out by the steering committee.

We can discuss these plans on coming Tuesday (January 30) at 10 A.M. at your office. I will confirm this appointment on Monday by phone.

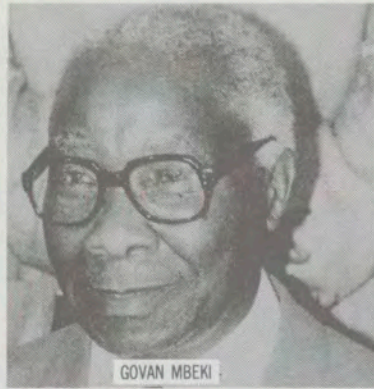
All the best,
greetings,



Peter Hermes
on behalf of the Steering Committee of the Welcome Mandela Committee.



HARRY GWALA



GOVAN MBEKI

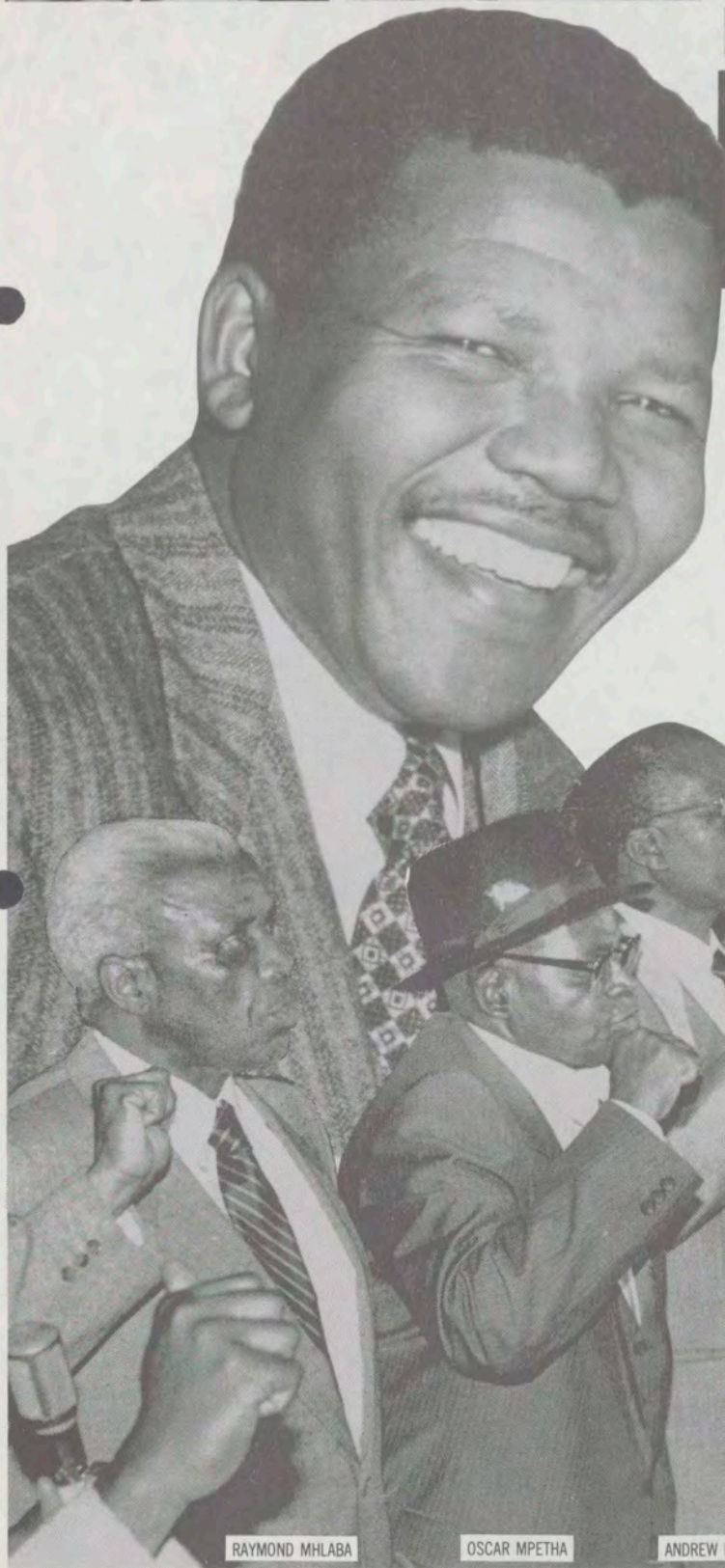
the NELSON MANDELA
INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE

IRC NEWS

LEADERS RELEASED

NOW!

FREE MANDELA
AND ALL
POLITICAL
PRISONERS



WILTON MKWAYI

ELIAS MOTSOALEDI

AHMED KATHRADA

RAYMOND MHLABA

OSCAR MPETHA

ANDREW MLANGENI

WALTER SISULU

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PRELIMINARY REPORT ON INITIATIVES TO ESTABLISH NATIONAL RECEPTION COMMITTEES

A. Introduction

On 8 January the Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee (IRC) issued an international appeal through its Convener, Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, announcing its formation and called on the international anti-apartheid movement to support this initiative by setting up their own national structures called National Reception Committees (NRCs). The IRC has been initiated following consultations with the African National Congress and with the full support of its President, Oliver Tambo. The appeal was received with enthusiasm as the prospect of Mandela's release occupied the minds of countless numbers of people who have in the past campaigned so vigorously for his release together with that of all other political prisoners. We have contacted all ANC, anti-apartheid movements and solidarity groups in all the countries where we had contact addresses.

We found that in a number of countries these groups were already discussing the matter and therefore the establishment of the IRC as a co-ordinating structure proved timely; in others, however, no such steps had been taken. We are pleased to report that efforts have been made in some countries to set up such structures and in others NRCs have already been established. In order to facilitate the work of the NRCs, we circulated on 16 January a list of suggestions of the kinds of celebratory activities for NRCs to consider. Included in the list is an urgent appeal for the compilation of a list of all honours given to Nelson Mandela; this will assist the IRC immensely.

B. Patrons

The IRC invited thirty prominent international personalities who have for many years been closely associated with the anti-apartheid struggle and the call for the release of Mandela and all political prisoners, to serve as its patrons. Although we have not received responses from all those invited, we are pleased to inform you that the following have agreed to serve:

Willie Brandt — Former Chancellor, FRG
Jimmy Carter — Former President, USA
Rt Hon Malcolm Fraser — Former Prime Minister, Australia
Mr Bob Hawke, Prime Minister, Australia
Rt Hon Denis Healey MP — Former Labour Chancellor of the Exchequer, Britain
Madame Danielle Mitterand — Danielle Mitterand Foundation, France
Mwalimu Julius Nyerere — Former President, Tanzania
Mrs Lisbet Palme — UNICEF, Sweden

Mr Cyril Ramaphosa — Secretary General of NUM(SA), Chairman, National Reception Committee (SA)

Sir Shridath Ramphal — Secretary-General of the Commonwealth

Mr Walter Sisulu — Former Secretary General, ANC

Archbishop Desmond Tutu — Archbishop of Cape Town

Fr Miguel d'Escoto — Foreign Minister, Nicaragua

Ruud Gullit — European Footballer of the Year, (1987) Netherlands

C. National Reception Committees

Belgium: Consultations between the ANC and the solidarity groups are taking place, and a committee has been formed. Comité Contre le Colonialisme et l'Apartheid, de Vlaamse Anti-Apartheidskoördinatie and AWEPA-Belgium have formed the Belgium Nelson Mandela Committee. The committee plans to approach a group of eminent persons in Belgium to be sponsors. Their programme, among other things, includes a press conference on the day of Mandela's release and a launch of an appeal for increasing the pressure on dismantling of apartheid.

France: The NRC has been formed and Breyten Breytenbach is convener; at the present moment they are working on the programme. We expect details soon.

Switzerland: The ANC chief representative also confirmed that the office is in contact with the solidarity groups in Switzerland and hopes that the initiative will be pursued there soon.

USA: The formation of the NRC there coincided with the visit by our convener, Archbishop Huddleston, and Horst Kleinschmidt, a member of the IRC Secretariat, who addressed a meeting of solidarity groups on 9 January. They formed the Nelson Mandela Reception Committee (USA). The committee has since drawn up plans for local activities. The committee embarked on a two-pronged programme:

(a) a long-term outreach programme to co-ordinate work of various groups;

(b) a contingency programme in the event of Mandela being released sooner than planned for. Details of a tentative programme have been worked out.

This initiative has been received with enthusiasm by some churches, and they have volunteered a full-time worker to work on the NRC. A trade union has donated office space and the necessary facilities. US\$1 000 was donated towards the work of the NRC (USA), and two churches donated \$500 each towards the International Reception Committee.

Washington and Los Angeles ANC offices will help to co-ordinate activities in the Eastern and Western Regions.

Britain: On 17 January an inaugural meeting of the NRC, attended by representatives of about 50 various organisations, took place at the House of Commons. The meeting adopted a programme along the lines suggested by the IRC. The NRC has already submitted a fairly comprehensive list of honours given to Nelson Mandela.

Netherlands: The NRC has been put together and it is comprised of Anti-Apartheid Movement, Holland Committee on Southern Africa, and Kairos, in collaboration with the ANC office. We are awaiting a report of further developments.

Ireland: The National Reception Committee is already functioning and has adopted a programme. Further developments will be reported in the next Newsletter.

Italy: A meeting of solidarity groups has already taken place to discuss the initiative and explore the setting up of a NRC. We await details and will include them in our next report.

Spain: We are in contact with the solidarity group and they have indicated that they are in process of discussing the initiative.

GDR: We have been in contact with the ANC Chief Representative there who has indicated that the initiative is being discussed. But due to the current political climate in the country, their programme would have to take that into consideration. We will report developments in the next report.

Finland: The ANC and some NGOs have met and agreed to form a Nelson Mandela Reception Committee. A plan of activities has been agreed upon, and a process of contacting prominent people, to rally their support is in motion. Details of activities will be included in our next report.

Scotland: The Scottish Anti-Apartheid Movement have indicated that they are spearheading the formation of a NRC. They are planning to launch it on 26 January.

Norway: Initiatives have already been taken to set up the committee. A meeting of various solidarity groups and the Chief Representative of the ANC has taken place. The launch of a NRC is planned to coincide with a visit to Oslo by the recently-released ANC leaders, Comrades Sisulu, Motsoaledi, Mbeki, Kathrada, Mhlaba, Mkwazi and Mlangeni. It is hoped that this visit will greatly inspire the Norwegian public to accelerate the momentum of this initiative.

Sweden: The Chief Representative of the ANC, together with

the Anti-Apartheid Movement, is engaged in efforts to work out a programme of activities. A structure has been set up to pursue the tasks related to this initiative. The region is busily engaged in activities in preparation for a visit by the recently-released leaders.

Denmark: The ANC office, in conjunction with the solidarity movement there, has initiated the setting up of a NRC. A public meeting has already been held and a formal launch will take place on 25 January. We will report on further developments regarding the programme in our next report.

Canada, Greece and Portugal: Contacts have been made in these countries with both ANC and solidarity groups, and we are informed that consultations are taking place between these organisations. We will report on further developments when we receive further information.

Africa: In view of lack of fax facilities, progress has not been as fast as in Europe and North America. However, we have since telexed different countries which host ANC offices or have solidarity organisations that we know of.

Zimbabwe: We are now in fax contact with Zimbabwe which will improve communication. We had an extensive discussion with the ANC office which received the idea enthusiastically. We await a report on progress regarding the formation of the structure and the programme of action.

Madagascar: We have received confirmation that our message has been received and we await a report on developments regarding the formation of an NRC there. We are pursuing further contacts.

Egypt: Receipt of our communication has been confirmed; we are seeking further discussions in order to facilitate the setting up of structures there. The Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organisation (AAPSO) based there has been informed about this initiative.

Ethiopia: This is the seat of the OAU and its solidarity committee. We have faxed and telexed our material to the ANC offices. We have since been in touch with the ANC Chief Representative there. He has indicated that he is holding discussions on work in Ethiopia with the local solidarity committee for building a structure and setting up a programme. He will be liaising with the OAU and its Secretary General, Salim Salim, in an effort to use the good offices of the solidarity committee to help co-ordinate activities in the continent. We have also secured the assistance of the Tanzanian High Commission in London to help liaise with the OAU Secretary General. We hope to report on progress in our next report.

Libya: The Chief Representative of the ANC in Libya has asked for a photograph of Nelson Mandela so that they can use them in their publicity work.

Asia: We have encountered similar problems as we have in Africa. However, we are overcoming these as the various people contacted there have responded positively to the initiative.

India: We have contacted the offices of the ANC and have been assured that efforts are being made to establish a structure there. We expect to be in regular contact with the office as communication methods have improved. We also held discussions with the High Commissioner in London, His Excellency M Rasgotra, and Counsellor M Ganapathi, who assured us of the support of the Indian government in the initiative.

Japan: Both the office of the ANC and those of the AAM groups have been contacted. Although discussions have been held with the officials in the offices of the Chief Representative, a group has not been formed yet.

A conference of AAM and solidarity groups is taking place in Japan towards the end of January. This will be addressed by IRC Convenor, Archbishop Huddleston, who will be accompanied by Horst Kleinschmidt (member of IRC Secretariat). We hope that this will be a forum to give momentum to the whole effort.

Hong Kong: We only contacted the Hong King Anti-Apartheid coalition on 19 January and we are awaiting a response on developments. We will report on progress in our next report.

Australia and New Zealand: We faxed material and briefed the Chief Representative extensively on the initiative. In our latest discussions with him, he informed us that efforts are afoot to set up a NRC structure. We hope to include a report and a programme and any further developments from this region in our next report.

Brazil: The Committee of Solidarity with the People of South Africa and Namibia (COMAFRICA) began their work by sending in a list of honours bestowed on Mandela between 1985 and now. They have also begun to mobilise anti-racist groups and progressive organisations. They have agreed on activities which will be reflected in next report.

Important notice

NRCs are urged to submit written progress reports on plans and activities as soon as possible, to help us in the compilation of our next report.

NELSON ROLIHLEHLA MANDELA

On 17 July 1918 Nelson Mandela was born at Qunu, near Umtata, the son of Nonqaphi Nosekeni and Henry Mgadla Mandela, chief councillor to the Paramount Chief of the Thembu. He spent his childhood at home near the Bashee River, Transkei, being groomed to become a chief. However, in 1930 his father died and Mandela then came under the care of his guardian and cousin, David Dalindyebo, the Acting Paramount Chief.

Mandela was enrolled at Healdtown Methodist Boarding School and after matriculating attended Fort Hare University College where he became involved in student politics. It was there that he met ANC President Oliver Tambo, and they were both expelled in 1940 as a result of their participation in a student strike.

Mandela left the Transkei, partly to avoid an arranged tribal marriage, and went to Johannesburg where he first became a mine policeman. He was traced by his relatives and again went into hiding, when he met Walter Sisulu who assisted him in obtaining articles with a legal firm. He completed his BA degree in 1941 by correspondence and then studied at the University of the Witwatersrand towards his LLB.

In December 1952 Mandela and Oliver Tambo opened their attorneys' practice in Chancellor House, Fox Street, Johannesburg. It was the first African legal partnership in the country.

Together with Sisulu and Tambo, Nelson Mandela participated in the foundation of the African National Congress Youth League in 1944 and in 1948 he served as its national secretary. In 1949, the ANC endorsed the 'Programme of Action' submitted to its annual conference by the Youth League, and the National Executive of the ANC changed character by including more radical members such as Mandela and Sisulu.

Both Mandela and Sisulu were distrustful of working with other racial groups, but they modified their views during the Defiance Campaign of 1952 and eventually became leading proponents of united action against government policy.

In late 1950 Mandela became national president of the Youth League, and in 1952 he was appointed national 'Volunteer-in-Chief' of the Defiance Campaign, whereby he travelled around South Africa enlisting disciplined volunteers who were prepared to break apartheid laws. The Campaign officially opened on 26 June 1952 and Mandela and 51 others broke curfew regulations as their first act of defiance.

In December 1952 Mandela and others, including Sisulu, Marks and Dadoo, were arrested and charged under the Suppression of Communism Act. He was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment with hard labour, suspended for two years. He was also served with a banning order prohibiting

him from attending gatherings for six months and from leaving the magisterial district of Johannesburg. For the following nine years his banning orders were to be continually renewed.

Although Mandela, by now Deputy National President of the ANC, was banned from gatherings, he continued to work with small and select Congress meetings. He was instrumental in the formulation of the 'M' Plan (named after him) whereby ANC branches were to be broken down into cells in order to cope with the possibility that it would have to function underground.

In September 1953 his bans were renewed and they also required him to resign officially from the ANC. From then on, except during the years of the treason trial, Mandela's leadership was exercised secretly.

In December 1956 Mandela was among the 156 political leaders who were arrested and charged with high treason. Four and a half years later on 29 March 1961, Justice Rumpff found the accused not guilty. Mandela played a leading role in the marathon trial as the original defence lawyers withdrew during the 1960 State of Emergency, and Mandela, together with Duma Nokwe, conducted the defence.

In 1959 the Treason Trial was still not over, but the ANC organised an anti-pass campaign. They were, however, preempted by the PAC which called for mass anti-pass protests on 21 March 1960. This resulted in the tragic shootings at Sharpeville and both the ANC and the PAC were banned when the government called a State of Emergency. During this time approximately 1 800 political activists, including Mandela, were imprisoned without charge or trial.

An ad hoc committee of black leaders, including Duma Nokwe, Govan Mbeki and Alfred Nzo, called an All-In Africa Conference in Pietermaritzburg in March 1961 which was attended by forty black leaders from various political groupings. Mandela's banning order was due to expire on the eve of the Conference and, anticipating its renewal, he went into hiding and made a surprise appearance at the Conference, where he was made Honorary Secretary of the All-In National Action Council, constituted to organise demonstrations against the proclamation of the Republic on 31 May. He was mandated to campaign for the calling of a national convention and later for a three-day stay-at-home strike on 29, 30 and 31 May 1961.

Evading arrest for incitement, Mandela went underground. He and Sisulu secretly travelled around the country organising the strike, and Mandela (nicknamed the Black Pimpernel) remained a fugitive for the next seventeen months.

The strike was felt to be a failure and Mandela called it off on the second day. Its failure heralded a change in Mandela's philosophy, and he then became instrumental in the

formation of Umkhonto we Sizwe (the Spear of the Nation), the military wing of the ANC.

Early in 1962 Mandela was smuggled across the border and on 11 January made a surprise appearance at the Pan-African Freedom Movement Conference in Addis Ababa. His address to the conference, a few weeks after the first sabotage attacks by Umkhonto, gave arguments to justify his turn to violence in South Africa. During this trip he received guerrilla training in Algeria before travelling to London where he met leaders of the British opposition parties.

He returned to South Africa in July, and on 5 August was captured near Howick, Natal. Mandela was tried at the Old Synagogue in Pretoria and in November 1962 was convicted for incitement and illegally leaving the country, and sentenced to five years' imprisonment. He was sent to serve his sentence in Pretoria Central Prison.

While Mandela was in prison the underground headquarters of the African National Congress at Liliesleaf Farm, Rivonia, were raided and Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Raymond Mhlaba, Ahmed Kathrada, Dennis Goldberg, Lionel Bernstein and others were arrested. The police found documents relating to the manufacture of explosives, Mandela's diary of his African tour and copies of a draft memorandum entitled Operation Mayibuye which outlined the possible strategy of the proposed guerrilla struggle.

The Rivonia Trial commenced in October 1963 and Mandela was brought from gaol to join the other eight accused being tried under the General Law Amendment Act

and the Suppression of Communism Act for sabotage and conspiracy to overthrow the government by revolution and by assisting an armed invasion of South Africa by foreign troops. Mandela's statement from the dock received worldwide publicity. The trial lasted eleven months and on 12 June 1964 eight of the accused, including Mandela, were sentenced to life imprisonment.

The following night Mandela was flown to Cape Town en route to Robben Island prison. In April 1982, together with Sisulu and others, he was transferred to Pollsmoor Prison, Cape Town. There have been numerous calls for Mandela's release, and in 1982 a 'Release Mandela Campaign' was initiated both in South Africa and abroad.

Mandela has two children from his first marriage to Evelyn Ntoko, a nurse. In 1958 he married Nomzamo Winnie Madikizela and they have two daughters and several grandchildren.

Sources

1. *No Easy Walk to Freedom, Articles and Trial Addresses of Nelson Mandela*, edited by First, Ruth, Heinemann (London, 1980).
2. Benson, Mary, *The Struggle for a Birthright*, Penguin African Library (Harmondsworth, 1966).
3. Carter, Gwendolen, and Karis, Thomas, *From Protest to Challenge*, IV, p 71, Hoover (Stanford, 1977).
4. Segal, Ronald, *Political Africa*, p 169, Stevens & Sons Ltd (London, 1961).
5. *Weekly Mail*, 21 March 1986.
6. *Weekly Mail*, 18 April 1986.

Extracted from *Who's Who in South African Politics*, No 2, Shelagh Gastrow, 1987 (with limited revision of certain parts of the text).

**the NELSON MANDELA
INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE**

40 Bowling Green Lane, London, EC1R ONE, United Kingdom
Telephone: 01-278 0333 Fax: 01-837 7612 Telex: 267247

5 January 1990

To national Anti-Apartheid and Solidarity Movements

**NELSON MANDELA
INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE**

Dear Friends,

I am writing concerning the possible impending release from imprisonment of Nelson Mandela. I am sure you are aware of the widespread speculation that he will be released early in 1990. Already within South Africa a National Reception Committee has been established to prepare for his release. It was under the auspices of that Committee that the reception for Walter Sisulu and his colleagues was organised after their release in October.

The release of Nelson Mandela is bound to have a profound impact on the course of the freedom struggle in South Africa as well as being an occasion to celebrate for all who have campaigned for his release. In particular we have a duty to ensure that it leads to even greater efforts to secure the freedom of **all** South African political prisoners.

Following consultations with the African National Congress and with the full support of its President Oliver Tambo I have undertaken to establish a Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee.

The main purpose of the International Reception Committee (IRC) would be to maintain and intensify the pressure for Nelson Mandela's release; to stimulate and co-ordinate activities worldwide to celebrate his release; and to further the ongoing struggle for the unconditional release of all other political prisoners and detainees in South Africa and the ending of apartheid.

I am writing to you to encourage the establishment of a National Reception Committee in your country. The aim of such National Reception Committees (NRCs) will be

to try and promote activity at a national level on the same basis as the International Reception Committee.

It is not envisaged that the National Reception Committees, nor indeed the International Reception Committee, should supplant existing structures but rather act to provide a framework for co-ordinated activity over the coming months.

I very much hope that you will consider the establishment of such a Committee. The International Reception Committee is to be launched publicly on 8 January - the 78th anniversary of the foundation of the ANC - when an Appeal will be published outlining the possible programme of activities which can be organised. I will arrange for you to be sent a copy of this Appeal and I will ensure that you are kept fully informed of further developments.

Since Nelson Mandela's imprisonment in 1962, millions of people all over the world have participated in the campaign to secure his freedom. His release must be not only an occasion for great celebration but also an opportunity for us all to rededicate ourselves to the struggle to end apartheid.

With best wishes,

Archbishop Trevor Huddleston CR
Convener: Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee

Please reply to Sipho Pityana, Co-ordinator:
Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee,
40 Bowling Green Lane, London EC1R ONE, England.
Tel (44)(1) 278 0333
Fax (44)(1) 837 7612

the NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE

40 Bowling Green Lane, London, EC1R 0NE, United Kingdom
Telephone: 01-278 0333 Fax: 01-837 7612 Telex: 267247

INTERNATIONAL APPEAL

As we enter a new decade we are witnessing great changes in the world as millions of people strive for their freedom and an end to injustice. This is especially the case in Southern Africa, for 1990 will see the birth of a new nation - Namibia. With Namibia's independence the world's attention will focus even more on the struggle for freedom in South Africa itself.

The 1990s must be the decade which finally sees freedom in South Africa and the destruction of apartheid. All the signs are that early in 1990 we shall see the release of Nelson Mandela. His release is bound to have a profound impact on the course of the freedom struggle in South Africa. It will also be an occasion to celebrate for all those who have campaigned for his release.

The **Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee** has been established in order to promote and co-ordinate activities to celebrate Nelson Mandela's release and to provide a framework for co-ordination with the National Reception Committee that has been formed within South Africa.

Since his arrest in 1962, Nelson Mandela has been continuously held in captivity. Throughout this period millions of people have joined in the campaign to secure his freedom and that of the people of South Africa as a whole. Great cities have honoured Mandela by granting him the freedom of the city; universities have awarded him honorary degrees; numerous streets, squares, parks and other public venues have been renamed in his honour; innumerable meetings, rallies, concerts and marches have been held to call for his release; songs have been written and performed in support of the campaign; and numerous petitions and postcard campaigns have been organised. Without doubt Nelson Mandela is the most famous political prisoner in the world today.

Numerous inter-governmental and parliamentary bodies have responded to this worldwide campaign. The United Nations Security Council has unanimously and repeatedly called for Nelson Mandela's unconditional release as have summit meetings of the Organisation of African Unity; the Non-Aligned Movement; the Commonwealth and European Community.

Nelson Mandela's release will represent therefore a great victory above all for the people of South Africa - but it will also be a victory for the international community which has campaigned for the release of Nelson Mandela and therefore an occasion for all those who have participated in this great campaign to celebrate.

Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee, which is being launched today, makes the following appeal to the international community and above all to those who have participated in the international campaign for the release of Nelson Mandela and all South African political prisoners:

- intensify the campaign to release Nelson Mandela;
- prepare to celebrate Nelson Mandela's impending release with activities throughout the world especially in towns, cities, universities and other places which have honoured Nelson Mandela;
- step up the ongoing struggle to secure the release of all South African political prisoners and detainees;
- intensify the struggle to end apartheid.

The **Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee** is calling for the establishment of National Reception Committees in as many countries as possible which will seek to promote the aims of the campaign at a national level.

The **Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee** appeals to the international community to ensure that the release of Nelson Mandela is not only made an occasion for great celebration but also becomes an opportunity for us all to rededicate ourselves to the struggle to end apartheid.

Archbishop Trevor Huddleston CR
Convener
8th January, 1990

the NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE

40 Bowling Green Lane, London, EC1R ONE, United Kingdom
Telephone: 01-278 0333 Fax: 01-837 7612 Telex: 267247

Attention:

News and foreign desks

NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE LAUNCHED TO PREPARE FOR NELSON MANDELA'S RELEASE

8 January 1990

The Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee is being launched today, Monday 8 January 1990 - the 78th anniversary of the foundation of the African National Congress.

The International Reception Committee is being convened by Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, the veteran anti-apartheid campaigner, who was a close colleague of Nelson Mandela and Oliver R Tambo when he was a parish priest in South Africa in the 1940s and '50s.

The International Reception Committee has been created in view of the possible impending release of Nelson Mandela. It has been initiated following consultations with the African National Congress and with the full support of its President, Oliver Tambo.

In an International Appeal being released today to coincide with the launch, the International Reception Committee is calling upon the international community to:

- intensify the campaign to release Nelson Mandela
- prepare to celebrate Nelson Mandela's impending release with activities throughout the world, especially in towns, cities, universities and other places which have honoured Nelson Mandela
- step up the ongoing struggle to secure the release of all South African political prisoners and detainees
- intensify the struggle to end apartheid.

The International Reception Committee is also urging the establishment of National Reception Committees in as many countries as possible to promote such action at a national and local level. The Convener of the International Reception Committee,

Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, is currently in New York for consultations over this initiative with the United Nations and to participate in a meeting to promote the campaign in the USA tomorrow, 9 January. There will be a meeting in the House of Commons on 17 January to establish a National Reception Committee in Britain.

The International Reception Committee will be liaising closely with the National Reception Committee which has been established within South Africa. It was that Committee which hosted Walter Sisulu and his compatriots on their release in October 1989.

The International Reception Committee has decided to create a Committee of Patrons consisting of prominent international figures who have participated in the international campaign to free Nelson Mandela.

**the NELSON MANDELA
INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE**

40 Bowling Green Lane, London, EC1R ONE, United Kingdom
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**NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE
SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES FOR NRCs**

- The compiling of a comprehensive list of sponsoring organisations of the National Reception Committee (NRC)
- The compiling of a list of individuals who have participated in the campaign for Mandela's release, eg artists at the Wembley concert, Mayors of cities which have honoured Mandela, etc, so that they can be asked to be sponsors of the NRC
- The compiling of a list of all bodies which have honoured Nelson Mandela and to approach them to:
 - (a) advise them of the existence of the NRC
 - (b) urge them to make final efforts to secure the release of Nelson Mandela
 - (c) prepare to celebrate the impending release of Nelson Mandela
- To organise a national advertisement to appear immediately after Mandela's release welcoming his release, calling for support for the release of all prisoners, etc, and announcing details of celebrations, to be signed by organisations
- To work out a contingency programme in the event of Mandela being released sooner than planned for, eg, press conference, performances to celebrate release
- To organise an immediate celebration outside South African embassy/consular office, on announcement of the release of Nelson Mandela and on the day of his release itself
- To organise rally within few days of Nelson Mandela's release
- To produce T-shirts, badges, posters, etc
- To organise an Early Day Motion in Parliament to be tabled immediately on Nelson Mandela's release
- To approach local authorities to fly ANC flag on the day of Nelson Mandela's release
- To encourage street parties or other appropriate activity in roads named after Nelson Mandela
- To encourage celebrations/parties, etc, in student union buildings named after Nelson Mandela
- To urge academic and other institutions that have given honorary degrees and other awards to Nelson Mandela to issue a formal invitation to him to receive them in person, and to publicise such action
- To urge those cities that have given Nelson Mandela freedom of the city to issue a formal invitation to him to receive it in person, and to publicise such action

**the NELSON MANDELA
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40 Bowling Green Lane, London, EC1R ONE, United Kingdom
Telephone: 01-278 0333 Fax: 01-837 7612 Telex: 267247

To: National Reception Committees, National Anti-Apartheid and Solidarity Movements

**Re: INTERNATIONAL PICKET OF SOUTH AFRICAN EMBASSIES AND
CONSULATES ON 2 FEBRUARY 1990 TO DEMAND RELEASE OF
NELSON MANDELA AND ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS**

As I trust you are aware, the Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee (IRC) was launched on 8 January. This initiative was taken following consultations with the African National Congress and with the full support of its President, Oliver Tambo. In case you have not received the International Appeal, which was issued to mark the launch of the IRC and outlining its purpose, please contact us at the above address.

Since the launch of the IRC there has been even more speculation over the possible impending release of Nelson Mandela. It now appears that his release could take place within the next few weeks and therefore our work has assumed an ever greater urgency.

We need to step up our efforts to secure the release of Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners immediately. The IRC is therefore calling for protests outside all South African embassies and consulates or trade missions on Friday 2 February. On this day, F W de Klerk is due to address the opening session of the racist tricameral parliament. The purpose of these protests will be to demand the immediate and unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners, including those on death row. We would urge that protests be sent directly to Pretoria in countries which maintain no diplomatic relations with apartheid South Africa.

We would welcome your co-operation in compiling an international survey of the awards and other honours which have been bestowed on Nelson Mandela. Please send details immediately of any such awards from your country, eg Freedom of the City, honorary degrees, streets which have been named after Nelson Mandela, indeed any such information which you believe will be of use. We want to ensure that all those that have honoured Nelson Mandela celebrate his release and that Nelson Mandela himself has as comprehensive a record as possible of such honours.

Unless you have done so already, may I urge you to encourage the establishment of a National Reception Committee in your country. The aim of such National Reception Committees will be to try to promote activity at a national level on the same basis as the International Reception Committee. We have stressed that it is not envisaged

that the National Reception Committee, nor indeed the International Reception Committee, should supplant existing structures but rather act to provide a framework for co-ordinated activity over the coming months. Can we ask you to be in touch with the ANC Chief Representative in your country or region to discuss the modalities of setting up a National Reception Committee with the broadest possible participation.

Finally, I should let you know of the progress we have already made by establishing the International Reception Committee. We have set up a special office in London with Siphos Pityana as Co-ordinator, together with a small administrative staff. We have established close working relations with the National Reception Committee in South Africa, and its Chairman, Cyril Ramaphosa, has agreed to join our Committee of Patrons, as have Walter Sisulu and Archbishop Tutu. Other prominent international personalities who have agreed to serve as Patrons are Willie Brandt, Madame Danielle Mitterand, Sir Shridath Ramphal, Julius Nyerere, Malcolm Fraser, Denis Healey, Jimmy Carter, Fr Miguel d'Escota, Mrs Lisbet Palme and Ruud Gullit. At a national level, progress is being made to establish National Reception Committees in as many countries as possible. I was able personally to attend a meeting in New York on 9 January to prepare for the establishment of a US National Reception Committee. Siphos addressed the inaugural meeting of the National Reception Committee in Britain. We intend to produce a regular newsheet to keep you informed of developments at the international level and especially on news from South Africa.

I am most excited by what has been achieved so far. This initiative does seem to have captured people's imagination and I truly believe that not only will Nelson Mandela's release be an occasion for great celebration but will lead to a new impetus for the international campaign against apartheid. I very much hope that once National Reception Committees are established we can convene a consultation with the International Reception Committee so that we can exchange views and ideas on the way forward.

Archbishop Trevor Huddleston CR

Convener

18 January 1990

FREE MANDELA

The Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee makes the following appeal to the international community and to all those who have participated in the international campaign for the release of Nelson Mandela and all South African political prisoners:

- Intensify the campaign to release Nelson Mandela
- Prepare to celebrate Nelson Mandela's impending release with activities throughout the world.
- Step up the struggle to secure the release of all South African political prisoners and detainees.
- Intensify the struggle to end apartheid.

40 Bowling Green Lane, London, EC1R ONE, United Kingdom
Telephone: 01-278-6478 Fax:01-837-7612 Telex: 267247

FREE SOUTH AFRICA NOW!

to: The Delegation
from home,
visiting ANC HQ
in Lusaka

by hand

re: Welcome Mandela
Committee in
The Netherlands

Amsterdam, 21 January 1990

Dear comrades,

This letter is to express the feelings of solidarity with you by the Anti-Apartheid Movement Netherlands, made aware of your visit to the African National Congress Head Quarters in Lusaka, Zambia. We were also informed that you will travel to Europe later, meeting with the President of the ANC, comrade Oliver Tambo, and visiting the United Kingdom.

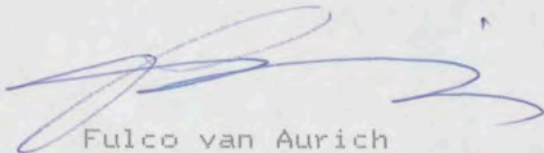
As is done in the U.K., preparations are being made this moment here in The Netherlands to celebrate the release of comrade Nelson Mandela, which can be expected 'any moment' now. 'Any moment' could mean in some weeks time, or in some months time, but we have decided to start preparing already now, so that we will be able to organize maximum support by the people of the Netherlands for the liberation struggle the moment the release of Mandela is announced.

This letter is to put the following request forward to you: Could you inform us (by telefax or by telex) in which period you will be in Scandinavia and the United Kingdom, so that we can investigate whether it is possible to invite a member (or members) of your delegation to visit The Netherlands as well? We feel it could be an important element in the presentation of the Welcome Mandela Committee in this country.

We are aware of the fact that you will be having a busy schedule. Nevertheless we hope you will be in the opportunity to inform us soonest.

Yours in struggle,

on behalf of Conny Braam (chairperson
Anti-Apartheid Movement Netherlands),



Fulco van Aurich
(staffmember publicity)

K

the NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE

40 Bowling Green Lane, London, EC1R ONE, United Kingdom
Telephone: 01-278 0333 Fax: 01-837 7612 Telex: 267247

To: National Reception Committees, National Anti-Apartheid and Solidarity Movements

RE: INTERNATIONAL PICKET OF SOUTH AFRICAN EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES ON 2ND FEBRUARY 1990 TO DEMAND RELEASE OF NELSON MANDELA AND ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS

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Unless you have done so already, may I urge you to encourage the establishment of a National Reception Committee in your country. The aim of such National Reception Committees will be to try and promote activity at a national level on the same basis as the International Reception Committee. We have stressed that it is not envisaged that the National Reception Committee nor indeed the International Reception Committee, should supplant existing structures but rather act to provide a framework for co-ordinated activity over the coming months. Can we ask you to be in touch with the ANC Chief Representative in your country or region to discuss the modalities of setting up a National Reception Committee with the broadest possible participation.

CONVENER Archbishop Trevor Huddleston CR
all correspondence to be sent to the CO-ORDINATOR Siphosiphanyane

Finally I should let you know of the progress we have already made by establishing the International Reception Committee. We have set up a special office in London with Siphos Pityana as Co-ordinator together with a small administrative staff. We have established close working relations with the National Reception Committee in South Africa, and its Chairman Cyril Ramaphosa has agreed to join our Committee of Patrons, as have Walter Sisulu and Archbishop Tutu. Other prominent international personalities who have agreed to serve as Patrons are Willie Brandt, Madame Mitterand, Sir Shridath Ramphal, Julius Nyerere, Malcolm Fraser, Dennis Healey, Jimmy Carter, and Fr Miguel d' Escota and Mrs Palme. At a national level progress is being made to establish National Reception Committees in as many countries as possible. I was able to personally attend a meeting in New York on the 9th January to prepare for the establishment of a US National Reception Committee. Siphos addressed the inaugural meeting of the National Reception Committee in Britain. We intend to produce a regular newsheet to keep you informed of developments at the international level and especially on news from South Africa.

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Archbishop Trevor Huddleston CR
Convener
18th January, 1990

NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE

A list of suggestions on initiatives for NRC's

- The compiling of a comprehensive list of sponsoring organisations of the National Reception Committee (NRC)
- The compiling of a list of individuals who have participated in the campaign for Mandela's release, eg. artists at the Wembly Concert, Mayors of cities which have honoured Mandela, etc, so that they can be asked to be sponsors of the NRC
- The compiling of a list of all bodies which have honoured Nelson Mandela and to approach them to:
 - (a) advise them of the existence of the NRC
 - (b) urge them to make final efforts to secure the release of Nelson Mandela
 - (c) prepare to celebrate the impending release of Nelson Mandela
- To organise a national advertisement to appear immediately after Mandela's release welcoming his release, calling for support for the release of all prisoners, etc and announcing details of celebrations, to be signed by organisations
- To work out a contingency programme in event of Mandela being released sooner than planned for eg. press conference, performances to celebrate release
- To organise an immediate celebration outside South African embassy/consular office, on announcement of the release of Nelson Mandela and on the day of his release itself
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- To produce T-shirts, badges, posters etc
- To organise an Early day Motion in Parliament to be tabled immediately on Nelson Mandela's release
- To approach local authorities to fly ANC flag on the day of Nelson Mandela's release
- To encourage street parties or other appropriate activity in roads named after Nelson Mandela
- To encourage celebrations/parties etc in student union buildings named after Nelson Mandela
- To urge academic and other institutions that have given honorary degrees and other awards to Nelson Mandela to issue a formal invitation to him to receive them in person, and to publicise such action
- To urge those cities that have given Nelson Mandela freedom of the city to issue a formal invitation to him to receive it in person, and to publicise such action

St James's Rectory
197 Piccadilly
London
W1V 9LF

Tel: 01-439 8498
Fax: 01-494 3661

2nd January, 1990

Dear

NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE

I am writing concerning the possible impending release from imprisonment of Nelson Mandela. I am sure you are aware of the widespread speculation that he will be released early in 1990. Already within South Africa a National Reception Committee has been established to prepare for his release. It was under the auspices of that Committee that the reception for Walter Sisulu and his colleagues was organised after their release in October.

The release of Nelson Mandela is bound to have a profound impact on the course of the freedom struggle in South Africa as well as being an occasion to celebrate for all who have campaigned for his release. In particular we have a duty to ensure that it leads to even greater efforts to secure the freedom of all South African political prisoners.

Following consultations with the African National Congress and with the full support of its President Oliver Tambo I have undertaken to establish a Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee. My purpose in writing to you is to invite you to become a Patron together with a limited number of other prominent South African and international personalities.

The main purpose of the International Reception Committee would be to maintain and intensify the pressure for Nelson Mandela's release; to stimulate and co-ordinate activities worldwide to celebrate his release; and to further the on-going struggle for the unconditional release of all other political prisoners and detainees in South Africa and the ending of apartheid. We will be encouraging the establishment of National Reception Committees in as many countries as possible as well as being in full and regular contact with the National Reception Committee in South Africa.

It is not envisaged that the National Reception Committees, nor indeed the International Reception Committee, should supplant existing structures but rather act to provide a framework for the co-ordinated activity over the coming months.

I very much hope that you will accept my invitation to serve as a Patron and and that you will be able to let me have your response as soon as possible.

I will ensure that you are kept fully informed of further developments.

Since Nelson Mandela's imprisonment in 1962, millions of people all over the world have participated in the campaign to secure his freedom. His release must be not only an occasion for great celebration but also an opportunity for us all to re-dedicate ourselves to the struggle to end apartheid.

*Yours sincerely
Trevor Huddleston C.F.*

Archbishop Trevor Huddleston CR
Convenor
Nelson Mandela International Reception Committee