

WORLD CAMPAIGN

**FOR THE RELEASE OF
SOUTH AFRICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS**

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PROTEST AGAINST RIVONIA SENTENCES!

Lives of Accused Are in YOUR Hands

BY the time this appears in print, the Pretoria sabotage trial of Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu and seven other leaders of the national liberatory movement in South Africa will be nearing its end. The fate of nine of South Africa's greatest sons, leaders of the struggle against apartheid and for equal rights for all for the last 20 years, will be in the balance.

The defence case has already opened, and on pages 3-6 of this issue we print a summary of what Nelson Mandela told the court. He admitted that he was one of the persons who helped to form Umkhonto we Sizwe and that he planned sabotage, and he explains why. Walter Sisulu, Raymond Mhlaba, Ahmed Kathrada and Lionel Bernstein have also given evidence under oath. All have argued that the Nationalist Government is to blame for the violence which has occurred in South Africa. The accused have become the accusers.

The statements of the accused in this case amount to a massive indictment of the White Supremacists in South Africa and their executive instrument, the Nationalist Government of Dr. Verwoerd, who by their policy of apartheid and their repressive laws have driven the people's leaders and organisations to active resistance.

The people never wanted violence. They were forced into it by the tyranny of the Nationalist Government, a tyranny which could no longer be endured by men and women who refused to be slaves in the land of their birth.

Fight For Freedom

For the crime of fighting for freedom, in the same way as the resistance leaders of Europe fought for freedom against the Nazi invaders during the last war. Mandela and his colleagues may be sentenced to death or to very long terms of imprisonment.

THE WORLD CANNOT PERMIT THESE SENTENCES TO BE CARRIED OUT.

As soon as sentence is passed (for we

can assume that the accused will be found guilty of the political crime of sabotage) we urge our readers in every country to spring to action to save these men from execution or a lifetime of imprisonment.

This is not a time for despondency, but for ceaseless activity to mobilise world opinion to intercede on behalf of the accused and stay the hand of the Verwoerd executioners.

RETURN PETITIONS BY MAY 30th

The petition forms issued by the World Campaign in support of the United Nations resolution for the abandonment of the Rivonia trial and the release of all political prisoners should be returned to the campaign office, c/o 15 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1 by May 30. It is hoped that soon after this date the necessary arrangements can be made to hand over the signatures that have been collected to U Thant at the United Nations in New York.

What You Can Do To Help

Hear are some of the things you can do:

Send your personal letter or telegram of protest to the Minister of Justice, House of Assembly, Cape Town. Demand the release of the accused and all other political prisoners.

Raise the matter in any organisation to which you belong—your trade union, your political party, your professional association—and get a resolution to protest passed and forwarded to Cape Town.

If you have a South African Embassy in your area, organise a demonstration outside protesting against the sentences and demanding the release of the accused.

Organise mass demonstrations and protest marches anyway, and make sure the issue is well publicised in your press. Write a letter to the editor of your local paper.

Lobby your city councillor and particularly your member of Parliament. Try to see that your Council and your Parliament pass a resolution of protest.

Try to get your government to make representations to the Verwoerd Government.

If the British and American Governments in particular can be roused to protest against these sentences, not even Verwoerd can refuse to listen to them, for without their backing Verwoerd could not last in office for a day.

Raise the matter in your church. Call for the intercession of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Pope, all the spiritual leaders of the world.

These men must not die or rot in jail. It is up to you to save them!

Peoples of the World Call For Release of S.A. Prisoners

DEATH, dressed in the trappings of South African justice, waits for more victims. The end of the Rivonia trial is near and the World Campaign for the release of political prisoners in South Africa now has a grim urgency.

Heads of State, jurists, women's organisations, trade unions, students' groups and ordinary people all over the world are joining the fight to save the four men, trusted leaders of the African National Congress, already condemned to die in South Africa. They also fight to save those now at the Rivonia trial facing the same fate.

The London office of the World Campaign continues to receive cables, letters and resolutions from diverse groups in all countries, all demanding the opening of South Africa's political jails and their death cells.

Herr Walter Ulbricht, President of the German Democratic Republic, writes: "Every form of racialism and colonial suppression has to be fought. The German Democratic Republic has approved repeatedly of United Nations resolutions demanding suitable measures for their liquidation. I wish your movement success with all my heart."

Nearly 500 of Norway's most distinguished jurists have addressed a call to their countrymen, telling of their great "anxiety as the South African authorities retreat more and more" from the fundamental principles of law. The so-called Sabotage Act makes wide allowance for arbitrary arrest, for political prosecutions, for jail without trial and for brutal sentences. "As jurists and human beings we are making a solemn appeal to the South African authorities to restore the rule of law and respect for the individual," their statement adds.

The powerful **Scottish Trades Union Council** called on the British Government in April to support United Nations moves for the release of South African political prisoners.

A resolution on this was passed unanimously at the Council's annual meeting in Perth.

Delegates cheered when it was announced that the T.U.C. general council had decided to congratulate the Aberdeen City Council for its anti-South African boycott decision.

Mr. Victor Reuther, Director of the International Affairs Department of the International Union, United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (U.A.W.), wrote to the World Campaign secretary saying they had been circulating petitions for

the release of South African prisoners and had been writing to the government in South Africa and its Ambassador in the United States.

"We wish you every success in your programme. You can be sure that we will continue to assist with your very important efforts through the American Committee on Africa."

The **Scottish Area of the National Union of Mineworkers** cabled the Minister of Justice in Pretoria calling for an end to the Rivonia trial and the freeing of all political prisoners, in accordance with the United Nations resolution. They have also written to the Prime Minister, Sir Alec Douglas-Home, reminding him that Britain voted for this resolution.

The letter says: "As Prime Minister of Britain, we ask for your immediate intervention to have these political prisoners released, that they may be granted political and economic freedom with their full democratic rights restored to them, and that no other such trial will be conducted in the future."

From Sydney, the **Union of Australian Women** has written to the South African Minister of Justice expressing their abhorrence at the death sentences imposed on the three men in the Port Alfred trial "for their opposition to your Government's racial policy".

Pointing out that the movement for the freeing of these three men has received wide publicity and support in Australia, the letter continues: "We strongly condemn your Government's continuation of apartheid policies which deny elementary human rights."

The **Japanese Anti-Apartheid Committee** handed letters to each of 32 South African businessmen on a recent buying mission to Japan, calling for the release of all political prisoners and pointing out that the Japanese are Asians and not White, an "honorary" status afforded them in South Africa for business purposes but denied to the Chinese.

A **Belgian Member of Parliament**, M. Ernest Glinne, has sent a petition with signatures of 32 other Belgian Members of Parliament supporting the struggle against racial injustice and demanding the abandonment of political trials and the immediate release of political prisoners in South Africa.

M. Glinne writes that he is sure more

signatures will be obtained when the parliamentary recess ends and adds that a committee against apartheid is about to start working.

From Prague the **Czechoslovak Com-**
Continued on page 7

Appeal to Swart

THE Soviet President, Mr. Leonid Brezhnev, has appealed to President Swart of South Africa on behalf of the three A.N.C. leaders who were sentenced to death for sabotage by a South African court sitting at Port Alfred last March.

Mr. Brezhnev's appeal says:

"My President, I address you in connection with the alarm of all people of goodwill who have learned about the passing of death sentences on the citizens of the South African Republic, Vuyisile Mini, Zinakeli Kaba and Wilson Khayinga, members of the movement for the guaranteeing of human rights in conformity with the decisions of the United Nations.

"I urge you on behalf of the Soviet people to do all that is necessary to squash the death sentences passed on these persons and to release all the other members of the movement for human rights who are now in prison. Your intervention will be met with a feeling of relief and deep satisfaction by the broadest quarters of world public opinion."

INDIA :

The Indian Government has approached the British Government with the request that it make representations to the South African Government calling for the release of all political prisoners in accordance with the resolution of the United Nations.

The Indian Government's request follows approaches made to the Indian embassy in London by the World Campaign for the Release of South African Political Prisoners. It is expected that other Commonwealth governments which have been approached by the Campaign will make similar representations.

The Campaign has also sent deputations to the Japanese and American Embassies in London. The deputations were received with courtesy, and the Ambassadors undertook to give their representations immediate attention.

"MY FIGHT IS FOR ALL"

Mandela Tells Court of ANC Objectives

The defence case in the Rivonia sabotage trial opened on April 20, 1964, with a statement from the dock by Nelson Mandela and evidence from the witness box by Walter Sisulu. We print below a summary of the proceedings in court on that historic day.

DURING my lifetime I have dedicated myself to this struggle of the African people. I have fought against White domination and I have fought against Black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But, if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die."

These were the words with which Nelson Mandela concluded his inspiring five-hour address to the court. When the defence case opened, Mandela told Mr. Justice De Wet, the Judge President, he would also admit planning sabotage, not through recklessness or a love of violence, but because he felt there was no other course open to the African people.

At the opening of the proceedings, for which both White and non-White galleries were full, Mr. A. Fischer, who leads the defence team, said he would briefly outline the case for the defence.

He said some of the State evidence would be admitted by some of the accused. Some would be denied.

It would be denied that the first seven accused were all members of the National High Command of Umkhonto we Sizwe.

In fact it would be denied that Goldberg, Kathrada, Bernstein and Mhlaba had ever been members of Umkhonto we Sizwe.

It would be denied that Umkhonto we Sizwe was a part, the military wing, of the African National Congress and it would be asserted that the leaders of both organisations had done their best to keep them apart.

It would be denied also that the African National Congress was or had been the tool of the Communist Party or that it shared the aims and objects of this party.

It would be shown that the African National Congress was a broad national movement with equal political rights for all South Africans as its aim and that it welcomed the support of the Communist Party as it did all support.

Umkhonto we Sizwe had been formed to commit sabotage when it was seen that all other methods of political protest had failed.

It would be denied that Umkhonto we Sizwe had intended guerrilla warfare. Plans for guerrilla warfare had been made as early as 1962. But no plan had been adopted and it had been hoped throughout the campaign the adoption of any plan would prove unnecessary.

The court would be asked to take into consideration the political backgrounds of the leaders of the movements and what led them to plan violence and in this way to see that they never could have adopted the plan for guerrilla warfare.

When it became clear that Mandela would make his state-

ment from the dock, which means that he cannot be cross-examined under oath, Dr. P. Yutar, for the State, asked the court to warn him that such a statement carried less weight than evidence under oath. Mandela indicated he was aware of the position.

He said the suggestion by the State that the struggle in South Africa was under the influence of foreigners or Communists was wholly incorrect.

"I have done whatever I did as an individual and as a leader of my people because of my experience in South Africa and my own proudly-felt African background and not because of what any outsider might have said," he went on.

He had been inspired in his youth in the Transkei by tales of the valour of men such as Dingaana, Bambata, Hintsa, Makana, Squnghi, Dalasile. Moshesh and Sekhukhuni to make his contribution to the freedom struggle. This had been his sole motive.

Some of the things told the court were true and some untrue. But he did not deny he had planned sabotage. He had not, however, planned it in a spirit of recklessness or from a love of violence.

Mandela said: "I planned it as a result of a calm and sober assessment of the political situation that had arisen after many years of tyranny, exploitation and oppression of my people by the Whites.

"I admit immediately that I was one of the persons who helped to form Umkhonto we Sizwe and that I played a prominent part in its affairs until I was arrested in August 1962."

He denied that Umkhonto was responsible for a number of acts which fell outside the policy of the organisation but with which he had been charged. These acts could not have been authorised by Umkhonto. He did not know who committed them.

Umkhonto had been formed because he and others had believed that as a result of Government policy violence by the African people had become inevitable.

They believed that unless responsible leadership were given to canalise and control the feelings of the people, there would be outbreaks of terrorism which would produce an intensity of bitterness and hostility between the various races of the country.

Secondly, they felt that as all lawful methods of expressing opposition to the principle of White supremacy had been closed sabotage provided the African people with their only means of defying the Government. The alternative was to accept a permanent state of inferiority.

Only when the Government had used violence to crush non-violent opposition had they resorted to violence in reply.

The African National Congress, formed in 1912, had always followed a policy of non-violence and successive White governments had remained unmoved by its pleadings,

In 1949 it was decided to protest by unlawful but still peaceful means. He had been in charge of this campaign of passive resistance and of the "volunteers" who carried it out.

He and 19 colleagues had been arrested and tried for their role in these incidents. Their sentences had been suspended because the judge found that discipline and non-violence had been stressed throughout.

The "volunteers" were not soldiers of a Black army but dedicated workers who were prepared to distribute pamphlets, organise strikes or carry out campaigns initiated by the A.N.C.

In spite of the harsh penalties prescribed by the Public Safety Act and the Criminal Law Amendment Act, the peaceful protests continued.

In 1956 he and 156 of his colleagues had been tried for high treason. When judgment was given five years later, the court found that the A.N.C. did not have a policy of violence.

"We were acquitted on all counts," he said. "They included a count that the A.N.C. sought to set up a Communist state in place of the existing regime.

"The Government has always sought to label all its opponents as Communists. This allegation has been repeated in the present case. But, as I will show, the A.N.C. is not and never has been a Communist organisation."

After the shooting at Sharpeville in 1960, the Government had banned the A.N.C. He and his colleagues decided not to obey this decree for to do so would be the equivalent of accepting the silencing of Africans for all time.

There had been confusion about the term "high command" on the part of witnesses from the Eastern Province. The term had been coined to describe a jail committee set up during the emergency when most of the leaders of the A.N.C. had been jailed. The name had stuck, particularly in Port Elizabeth.

In 1960 as a result of the referendum in which the Africans were not consulted, the all-in African Congress was called to request a national convention.

He had undertaken to organise the national "stay-at-home" which was planned to coincide with the declaration of a republic. As all strikes by Africans were illegal, he had been forced into hiding.

Although the strike had been peaceful, the Government had introduced harsher laws and mobilised its armed forces and sent soldiers and armoured vehicles into the townships in a massive show of force.

This decision of the Government to rule by force alone was a milestone on the road to Umkhonto we Sizwe.

"We of the A.N.C. shrank from any action which might drive the races further apart than they already were!" Mandela said.

But the facts were that 50 years of non-violence had brought the African people more repressive legislation and even fewer rights.

"For a long time the people had been speaking of violence and the leaders had to admit that a policy of non-violence had achieved nothing, so much so that their followers were beginning to lose confidence in this policy.

In fact, violence had become a feature of the South African political scene.

There had been violence in 1957 when the women of Zeerust were ordered to carry passes. There had been violence in 1958 with the enforcement of cattle culling in Sekukuniland. There had been violence in 1959 when the people of Cato Manor had protested against the pass raids. There had been violence in Pondoland in 1960 when the Government attempted to introduce Bantu authorities and there had been riots in Warmbaths in 1961.

Small groups of Africans in the urban area had been spontaneously making plans for violent forms of political struggle and there was a danger they would adopt terrorism against Africans as well as Whites if not properly directed.

In 1961 the leaders, of which he was one, decided to press for a policy of violence in the national liberation movement, only after serious consideration.

The A.N.C. would not change its policy but agreed not to take disciplinary action against its members who took part in controlled sabotage.

Four forms of violence were possible—sabotage, guerrilla warfare, terrorism and open revolution. It was decided to embark on sabotage because it did not involve the loss of life.

It was believed South Africa was already dependent on foreign trade and foreign capital. Umkhonto chose power supplies and communications as its targets to frighten trade and capital away.

Attacks were linked with sabotage on Government buildings and other symbols of apartheid to inspire the African people to continue their struggle.

Strict instructions were given to Umkhonto that they were on no account to kill or injure people in their attacks. Umkhonto members were forbidden to go into operation carrying arms.

Any attacks carried out before December 16, 1961, were not the work of Umkhonto which had its first operation on that date.

The Government replied to these activities with threats and even harsher measures. It was decided that, to be ready for all eventualities, provision had to be made for the possibility of guerrilla warfare.

It had been decided to send him abroad where among other things he could make arrangements for the training of recruits from South Africa who would then form the nucleus of a military force if the need should ever arise.

While abroad he had undergone military training so as to be able to fight side by side with his people if the need arose.

Summaries of books on guerrilla warfare in his handwriting had been handed into court. He admitted having made them in an effort to prepare himself for any eventuality.

He had made arrangements for Africans from South Africa to be trained outside the Republic and had seen the first batch of recruits pass through Tanganyika while he was on his way home.

Referring to the evidence of Mr. X, the secret State witness who spent four days in the witness box, Mandela said much

of his evidence was true but much was slanted and much untruthful in some respects.

For instance, he had never said that certain African states had promised the national liberation movement one per cent of their budgets.

He had never said trainees should hide the fact they were Communists but had said they should not use their position to make Communist propaganda.

He had never referred to Umkhonto as the "military wing of the A.N.C." because he had always regarded the two organisations as separate and had done his best to keep them separate.

Regarding the bombing of private houses in Port Elizabeth and East London he said he did not know what justification there had been for this or what provocation had been given. They had not been the work of Umkhonto.

Umkhonto was not and never had been a part of the A.N.C. although bannings, imprisonment and departures of leaders for overseas had led to some overlapping, some leaders having to serve dual capacities.

Rivonia had never been the headquarters of Umkhonto during the time he had been there but he had known certain Communist Party activities were carried out there.

He had come to be there through Arthur Goldreich whom he had known socially and who had offered him accommodation while he was in hiding. Up to the time of his arrest in August 1962, neither Umkhonto nor the A.N.C. had used Lilliesleaf farm as a headquarters.

The ideological creed of the A.N.C. had never been the same as that of the Communist Party. Its creed was one of African nationalism with the concept of freedom and fulfilment for the African people in their own country.

The freedom charter was not a blueprint for a socialist state in that it called for redistribution but not nationalisation of the land. It provided for nationalisation of the banks, mines and monopolies because continued monopoly would mean continued domination of the Africans by the Whites.

The Communist Party regarded the freedom charter, for which it was prepared to work, as the beginning and not the end of its programme.

The Communist Party sought to emphasise class distinctions while the A.N.C. sought to harmonise them.

The co-operation between the A.N.C. and the Communist Party was merely proof of a common goal and not proof of community of interest.

He believed the Communist Party had always played an active role in the fight by colonial countries for their freedom.

For decades the Communists had been the only section of the population which was prepared to treat Africans as equals. It was not surprising therefore when Africans turned to them in their struggle for freedom.

Because of this situation many Africans today equated Communism with freedom. They were supported in this belief by a legislature which branded those who opposed the government and fought for African freedom as Communists.

Although he had never been a Communist himself, he had been named and convicted under the Suppression of Communism Act.

He had always regarded himself as an African patriot and was related to the Paramount Chief of Tembuland and to Chief Kaiser Matanzima of the Transkei. His thoughts, however, had been coloured by Marxist literature and by his admiration for the structure of early African society in this country where there were no rich and no poor and no exploitation.

In common with many leaders of newly independent states he accepted the need for some form of socialism to enable his people to catch up with the advanced countries of the world and overcome their legacy of poverty.

The basic task at present was to remove race discrimination and the attainment of democratic rights on the basis of the freedom charter. As far as the Communist Party furthered the execution of this task he welcomed its assistance.

Many of the exhibits were in his handwriting. But he denied that those which took the form of Marxist lectures were his own work. They had been an attempt of his to rewrite lectures written by an official of the Communist Party into a more readable form.

The fight of the African people was against real and not imaginary hardships. Basically they fought against two features which were entrenched by legislation. The one was poverty and the other loss of human dignity. No "agitators" were needed to teach the African people of these things. Mandela quoted statements and statistics to prove that Africans lived on impoverished land in the reserves and in squalor, at starvation level in the towns.

Poverty went hand-in-hand with malnutrition and its attendant diseases, he said. The Africans complained not only of their poverty but that laws made by the Whites were designed to keep them poor and the Whites rich.

The present Government had always done everything possible to hamper the Africans in their search for education.

It had done away with the feeding scheme for African schoolchildren. Spending by the Government on White schoolchildren was nearly 12 times per head that spent on African schoolchildren. Even the quality of education given to African children differed from that given to Whites.

Job reservation and the industrial colour bar prevented Africans from ever improving their position in the labour market. In addition, they were not allowed to form trade unions, and were denied the right of collective bargaining.

Whites tended to regard Africans as a different breed and did not realise they fell in love, married, had children and strove to support them just as the Whites did.

Pass laws rendered Africans liable to police surveillance at any time and served to keep husbands and wives apart, break down family life and turn the youth into delinquents.

Africans wanted a living wage and the right to earn it in the place of their choice. They did not want to be confined to living in "ghettos." They wanted their wives and families with them and not to be confined to their rooms after 11 p.m. "like little children."

Africans wanted a share in the whole of South Africa. They wanted security and a stake in society.

Above all they wanted political rights. The Whites' fear of granting these could not be allowed to stand in the way of the only solution which would guarantee racial harmony and freedom for all.

Mandela said: "This then is what the A.N.C. is fighting. Its struggle is truly a national one. It is the struggle of the African people, inspired by their own suffering and their own experience."

Walter Sisulu, the former general secretary of the African National Congress, giving evidence under oath, said he had passed standard four at school then gone to work in the gold mines. After educating himself, he had become a professional politician.

His own political view was that he wanted the best of both the socialist and the capitalist worlds, but the fundamental necessity for Africans was the achievement of political rights.

The A.N.C. welcomed all classes of Africans who strove for African freedom. He was opposed to the introduction of ideologies into the A.N.C.

He had had personal experience of the hardships suffered by Africans in South Africa. He had been a victim of the pass laws, had been banned, confined, house-arrested, detained, separated from his family and imprisoned.

The Umkhonto we Sizwe had been formed because the Government had used violence against the Africans on every possible occasion. The danger of civil war had become very real.

(This summary has been reprinted in full from the "Rand Daily Mail", Johannesburg).

Policemen Jailed For Death by Torture

But Vorster Refuses An Inquiry

THE conviction of four Bultfontein policemen, including the station commander, and the clerk of the Bultfontein Court on charges arising from the death of an African prisoner as a result of police torture methods has created a furore in South Africa.

In addition to the African prisoner who died, another African prisoner was seriously injured by the police torture.

The five accused were originally charged with murder, but all were acquitted on this charge. Two policemen were found guilty of culpable homicide, all were found guilty of assault with intent to commit serious injury, and one policeman, the station commander, was also found guilty of attempting to defeat the ends of justice.

One policeman was sentenced to nine years and six strokes, another to seven years and six strokes, the third to three years and six strokes, conditionally suspended for three years, the fourth to three years and six strokes and the fifth to four years.

Evidence had been given that the accused used an electric shocking machine on the prisoners, suffocated them by placing a plastic bag over their heads, trussed them with handcuffs and a stick, trampled on them and beat them with a sjambok. Admitting the evidence, one of the policemen said he doubted if there was a police station in the country which did not use these methods of extracting confessions from prisoners.

Continued from page 2

Committee of Solidarity with the Nations of Africa and Asia reports that it continues to protest against the Rivonia trial and that various Czechoslovak public bodies are using the opportunities afforded by their membership of various international organisations to secure vigorous condemnation of the inhuman rule of apartheid and the illegal Rivonia trial.

"We are convinced that joint action will save the lives of Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu and other leaders of the national liberation movement in South Africa."

Massive support for the campaign has come in a number of cables from all over Cuba. At a national level calls have come from the Foreign Ministry and trade unions representing the petroleum, transport, engineering and municipal workers, among others.

The National Association of Labour

As though to confirm his words, on the very day that the Bultfontein accused were sentenced, a White detective and two African detectives at White River, in the Eastern Transvaal, were found guilty of assaulting three Africans by using an electric shocking machine in June last year. The White detective, together with another White who had taken part in the assault, was fined £25 or 50 days. The Africans were fined £5 or 30 days.

Coming on top of repeated allegations that 90-day detainees had been subjected to similar tortures and that two of them had died as a result, these convictions furnished proof that Nazi-type methods were in widespread use by the South African police.

In Parliament

Raising the matter in Parliament, the leader of the Opposition, Sir de Villiers Graaff, demanded that an impartial inquiry should be instituted to investigate the situation in the police force. The appalling incidents revealed in the Bultfontein judgment offended South Africa's conscience as a nation, said Sir de Villiers.

He singled out the Minister of Justice for particular attack. Mr. Vorster had denied that there was anything wrong with police methods at a time when he must have known investigations were proceeding into the Bultfontein case, he said. In any other country a Minister of Justice in such a situation would have been forced to resign his office, said Sir

Student Organisations, at its recent conference in Britain, expressed its extreme concern at the possibility of death sentences for the Rivonia trialists and called on the British Government to apply maximum pressure "at this very late stage" to implement the United Nations resolution which called for an end to the trials and the release of political prisoners in South Africa.

Some of the most energetic work against apartheid is being carried on in Australia. In Canterbury, Victoria, a committee of South Africa Protest has been set up and is issuing its own printed news-

sheet called "South Africa Protest".

de Villiers. But in South Africa Mr. Vorster continued to defend the police and refused to take measures to root out the evil.

Vorster Reply

Replying to the attack, Mr. Vorster said the Opposition were seeking to "chop off the hands of the police." The whole issue was an attempt by "liberalists" to smear the police. He would not lend himself to a witchhunt in the police force.

Backing up his Minister of Justice, the Prime Minister, Dr. Verwoerd, while admitting that a nation-wide police investigation had shown that there were electric shocking machines "at a few places," firmly rejected the demand for the appointment of a commission and said he would not allow the Opposition to dictate to him who the members of his Cabinet should be.

United Party member Mr. R. Cadman (Zululand) said what Parliament was discussing was a case of death by torture. The only inference that could be drawn from the Nationalist attitude to the debate was that death by police torture was the biggest joke heard by the Minister and the Nationalist members.

FOOTNOTE: On January 31, 1964, Mr. Vorster said 49 complaints of assaults by policemen or prison warders on 90-day detainees had been made to the police. 23 said they had been hit or kicked, 3 said they had been hit with fists, 20 said they had been given electric shocks, 19 of these said they had been hit or kicked as well, 3 complained of other assaults.

IN WEST GERMANY

A message from the collective of first aid workers at the Mercedes works in West Germany states that they stand for peace and friendship between the peoples of the world. For this reason they declare that they cannot support the race policies of the South African state.

DUTCH PEOPLE UNITED AGAINST APARTHEID

THE World Campaign for the Release of South African Political Prisoners has been organising deputations to various countries in Europe to mobilise support for the victims of apartheid in South Africa.

One deputation, consisting of Dr. Y. M. Dadoo and Mr. W. Ngakane visited Holland between April 10 and 13 and stated in its report that "informed public opinion was emphatically opposed to and condemned strongly the apartheid policies of the South African Government".

The delegation's programme of appointments was arranged by Mr. H. J. Holtslag, the secretary of the Comite Zuid-Afrika, with the assistance of Mr. Amin Bhabha, a South African student studying in Holland.

Here are some details of the reception to the delegation:

The Dutch Labour Party

The delegation was received at Party headquarters by the President, Mr. J. Suurhoff. He undertook to attend to the following:

(a) The Labour Party to call upon South African Government to implement the U.N. resolution on the Rivonia trial and the release of political prisoners.

(b) The Parliamentary group of the party to get the matter raised in the Kamer with the object of moving the Government to act on the U.N. resolution.

(c) The Party to consider the question of suitable public protest demonstrations in collaboration with the trade union movement and other organisations immediately the judgment in the Rivonia trial is pronounced.

The Dutch Reformed Church

The deputation was cordially received by the President of the Synod, Dr. Emmen, at his residence. He expressed the deep concern of his Church at the attitude of the Dutch Reformed Churches in South Africa in supporting the "unchristian" apartheid policies of the Verwoerd Government.

Dr. Emmen assured the delegation that he would place its proposals before the executive for suitable action; implore the Dutch Government to take effective action in terms of the United Nations resolution to save the lives of the Rivonia accused; refer the delegation's proposals to the World Council of Churches for its consideration.

Pacifist Socialist Party

The delegation were received by Mr. A. G. van der Spek, member of the

Senate, and Mr. A. J. Bruggeman, a member of the Lower House. The Party, represented by five members in Parliament, completely identified itself with the delegation's proposals and a campaign to be carried out in conjunction with the Comite Zuid-Afrika was worked out in some detail during the discussions.

The Dutch Trade Unions Organisation (Socialist) and the Christian Trade Union assured the delegation that the whole trade union movement in Holland was completely opposed to the apartheid

policy and would consider all possible measures of protest against the Rivonia trial.

The Catholic People's Party

The delegation met Mr. Klesterlee and Adv. Gielen, of the International Department of the Party, who assured them that as the major partner in the coalition Government, the Catholic Party was committed to an arms embargo against South Africa. It was also examining the juridical aspects of economic sanctions.

VISIT TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS

On April 27 two members of the World Campaign, Mr. Abdul Minty and Mr. Raymond Kunene, went to Brussels and met Mr. S. Nedzynski, assistant general secretary of the I.C.F.T.U. After outlining the activities of the campaign, particularly in relation to the Rivonia trial, the delegation submitted certain specific proposals.

The I.C.F.T.U. was requested to inform all its affiliated members of the urgency of the situation together with requests for specific action, including demonstrations and campaigns calling for the abandonment of the Rivonia trial; direct representations by national unions to their respective Governments asking for the implementation of the U.N. resolution; special publicity to be given to the trial in international and national trade union periodicals; and, if the death sentence should be imposed, to demand that the political leaders should not be hanged.

Mr. Nedzynski assured the delegation of the continued support of the I.C.F.T.U. for campaigns against apartheid. The suggestions of the delegation would be considered sympathetically.

The delegation came away feeling confident that most of the Campaign's proposals would be accepted by the I.C.F.T.U. executive committee.

OTHER COUNTRIES

A delegation consisting of Mr. Fenner Brockway M.P., Mr. Robert Resha and Mr. Joe Slovo visited Rome during the first week of May. They received a cordial reception from all the main political parties, and their visit was extensively publicised in the press and over the radio. They feel confident that Italy will make

strong representations over the Rivonia trial.

STUDENTS HONOUR MANDELA

Mr. Nelson Mandela was elected an honorary vice-president of the National Association of Labour Students' Organisations at their national conference held in England recently. Mr. A. Fischer, Q.C., one of the defending counsel in the Rivonia trial, wrote to say that he was able to inform Mr. Mandela of his election just before he made his statement in court. Mr. Fischer went on to say that support of this sort which showed solidarity with the fight of the accused did incalculable good for their morale and this particular announcement was a real shot in the arm for Nelson just as he was about to enter the box.

Early in May, Nelson Mandela was unanimously elected President of the Students' Union of University College, London. The following day Archbishop Joost de Blank, former Archbishop of Cape Town, addressed a meeting of students at the College inaugurating a £2,000 scholarship fund to enable a Non-White South African student to take a three-year course at the University.

HUNGER STRIKE

The Afro-Asian Caribbean Society was responsible for staging a hunger strike in Trafalgar Square opposite South Africa House in support of the release of political prisoners in South Africa. Their gesture secured widespread publicity in the English press and served to highlight the plight of South African prisoners. Many signatures were obtained for the petition and money was also collected for Defence and Aid.