

CONFIDENTIAL

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METROPOLITAN POLICE

SPECIAL BRANCH

No. 1 (Plain)

Special Report

Noted
K 19/69

6/10/70 LMS

12th day of November, 1969.

SUBJECT

Anti-Apartheid Movement

The Anti-Apartheid Movement held its Annual General Meeting on Sunday, 26th October, 1969, at the National Liberal Club, Whitehall, London, from 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. with a lunch break from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. A total of 74 persons were present.

The following officers of the A.A.M. occupied the platform:

Reference to Papers

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- ✓ Chairman: John ENNALS
- ✓ Sponsor: Lord COLLISON, accompanied by his wife. (They left the meeting at 12.30 p.m.)
- ✓ Executive Secretary: Ethel de KEYSER
- ✓ Treasurer: Anthony O'DOWD
- ✓ Hon. Secretary: Abdul MINTY
- ✓ Organising Secretary: Alan BROOKS

The meeting was opened by the chairman at 10.20 a.m. who welcomed those present and then spoke about the present situation in South Africa.

It has not been possible to date to obtain details of all the speakers. However I have been informed that a great part of the day was taken up in discussing the tour of the South African Rugby team in this country and the 1970 tour of the South African cricket team.

Alan BROOKS presented a resolution associating the A.A.M. with the Stop the 1970 Tour Committee and to engage all their resources in an effort to stop the rugby and cricket tours. At this point the Chairman John ENNALS pointed out that the A.A.M. as such could not officially sign such a resolution until a full A.A.M. conference had had a chance to discuss whether to support the Stop the 1970 Tour Committee. The chairman informed BROOKS that he hoped members of the A.A.M. would do all in their power to stop these tours, and support demonstrations. BROOKS then informed the chairman that the "Stop the 1970 Tour Committee" was after all part of the A.A.M. and he could not agree with the objection.

No details were given of future demonstrations during the conference. Peter HAIN, Peter HELLYER, John SPRACK all spoke at length about the urgent need to stop the South African rugby and cricket tours.

The following resolutions were adopted at the A.G.M.:

1. This Annual General Meeting of the Anti-Apartheid Movement believes that the continuation of sporting ties between British and South Africa bolsters the morale of the apartheid regimes and their supporters. It notes that the visit by the Wilfred Isaacs X1 in July and August and the Davis Cup match were disrupted by anti-apartheid demonstrators, and that the Springbok rugby team has been routed before its first match. It emphasises that the campaign against sporting links with South Africa must grow. It therefore:

(1) calls upon members of the AAM and others opposed to apartheid to take action against the Springbok rugby tour this winter;

(2) calls upon the MCC to cancel its invitation for a South African cricket team to tour in 1970, and upon the officers of the AAM to put pressure on the MCC to this end; and

(3) warns the MCC that if it does not withdraw the invitation the matches will inevitably be disrupted.

2. This Annual General Meeting, aware of the effectiveness of direct action in the sphere of sport, urges an extension of this kind of activity to other fields.

3. This Annual General Meeting, noting with grave concern the mounting repression of the Vorster regime, its ruthless persecution of political opponents, and in particular the detention without trial of numerous persons at the present time under the notorious Terrorism Act,

(1) demands the release of all South African political prisoners, both those in detention and those thousands who have been tried under various repressive laws;

(2) condemns the trial and conviction of Laurence Gandar as a travesty of justice and applauds the impartial investigation of South African prison conditions currently taking place under the aegis of the United Nations;

(3) urges HMG to take more active steps than have been hitherto taken to secure the release of British subjects held without regard to the Rule of Law by the Vorster regime, and to demand of the South African Government the unconditional release of all political prisoners and victims of apartheid;

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(4) deplores the recent illegal trial and conviction of Namibian freedom fighters in Windhoek as a further extension of the terrorism of apartheid to the people of South West Africa in defiance of UN General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, demands the immediate release of all Namibians held prisoner by the South African Government, and urges HMG to initiate all necessary measures at the UN to secure the implementation of UN resolutions on South West Africa;

(5) calls for the extension to captured freedom fighters throughout Southern Africa of the same protections and privileges accorded to prisoners of war under the Geneva Convention.

4. This Annual General Meeting, reaffirming support for the guerrilla struggle for liberation in Southern Africa and urging that the maximum direct practical assistance be given by people in Britain to the forces striving for freedom in the sub-continent:

(1) accepts in principle the request for aid received from the African National Congress;

(2) invites the African National Congress to submit further details of its requirements;

(3) calls upon all member organisations, sympathetic bodies and the public at large to respond to the request of the African National Congress and pledges the Anti-Apartheid Movement to assist in all such efforts;

(4) instructs the incoming Executive to give serious and sympathetic attention to any such requests as may be received in future;

(5) calls for financial help to further the cause in whatever way the liberation movements consider would be most effective.

5. This meeting condemns those policies of the British Labour Government in relation to Southern Africa, which in defiance of progressive opinion have been largely responsible for:

(a) the consolidation of the white supremacist regime of the Rhodesian rebels and the impending installation of a republican apartheid regime, oppressive and having the clear objective of imitating South Africa's racial policies;

(b) the de facto transfer of economic power and influence in the former High Commission territories to apartheid South Africa and the completion of South Africa's annexation of South West Africa in defiance of the United Nations;

(c) South Africa's virtual military takeover of Rhodesia and the consequent forging of a South Africa-dominated colonialist alliance against the freedom movements of the Southern African peoples;

(d) the continued growth of British economic and financial involvement in the apartheid economy, hence providing the resources for South Africa's expansion and control of the Southern African region and enabling it to threaten the independence of Zambia and other African States. Britain's policies have as a result considerably added to the difficulties of the African liberation movements and have given cause for Britain to be seen as being in league with white reaction in Southern Africa and having common purpose with apartheid South Africa.

This meeting therefore instructs the National Committee to prepare a comprehensive campaign in 1969/70 designed to inform the British people of the consequences of these policies of Her Majesty's Government, to mobilise the active support of all militant anti-apartheid forces inside and outside the Labour and Trade Union movement, to direct this campaign with the forthcoming General Election in mind and to secure due recognition for the Southern African freedom struggle.

6. This Annual General Meeting resolves that the Association of Commonwealth Universities and individual British universities be called upon to terminate all relations with universities in the Republic of South Africa and Rhodesia, and in particular to cease helping them to recruit staff. It also calls on the NUT, AUT, APTI and ASTMS to bring pressure on the universities of Britain and the Commonwealth.

7. This Annual General Meeting resolves that more attention be given to the boycott of South African goods and in particular that there be a periodic nation-wide organisation of demonstrations against the sale of specific goods of South African origin in specific shops.

8. The AGM of the AAM welcomes the resolution on South Africa adopted by the 1969 Trades Union Congress and calls on all members of the Anti-Apartheid Movement to undertake more action within the Trade Union Movement at local, national and international level and at the level of shop steward committees, and to prepare pamphlets relevant to different industries, wherever possible.

9. This AGM, concerned at the close convergence of South African and international capital in the bolstering and expansion of the white minority regimes in Southern Africa; convinced that the Cabora Bassa Dam project in Mozambique represents not only an attempt by the Portuguese government to harness the force of international capital in its war against FRELIMO, but also a

major threat to world attempts to isolate the Smith regime in Rhodesia; notes that Lord Nelson, Chairman of GEC, has committed his company to applying for the contracts to supply transmission terminals for the dam project, after the Swedish firm ASEA had been forced to withdraw; calls upon HMG to prevent any British involvement in the project; and further instructs the National Executive:

- (1) to campaign against the supply of British capital, equipment and skills, as a breach of UN sanctions against Rhodesia;
- (2) to campaign generally - by direct action if necessary - against the involvement of international, including British capital, in the support and consolidation of the regimes and economies of South Africa, Portugal and Rhodesia.

10. This meeting welcomes the recent speech of Mr. Tom Jackson, General Secretary of the Union of Post Office Workers to the Postal, Telegraph and Telephone International 20th World Congress, and:

- (a) demands that HMG suspend all postal, radio and tele-communications with the illegal regime in Rhodesia, and raise the matter in the appropriate form in the Universal Postal Union and the International Tele-communications Union;
- (b) appeals to the Union of Post Office Workers and all other workers affected to support this demand in every possible way.

11. This AGM of the AAM condemns the British Government in its attempts to conciliate and negotiate with the Smith regime; for its refusal to confront the Smith regime on the basis of NIBMAR; and for its total abandonment of pledges to Black Africans to protect their interests: calls upon HM Government to

- (1) cut all formal ties with the Smith regime and abandon all attempts at negotiation;
- (2) recognise the liberation movement in Zimbabwe as representing the only realistic way forward;
- (3) calls upon the Executive Council to mount a campaign to this effect.

Copies of letters attached at Appendix A and B have been circulated to all branches of the N.U.S.

Details of persons identified at the A.G.M. are shown at Appendix C together with Special Branch references.

[REDACTED]
Inspector

Submitted:

[REDACTED]
Chief Inspector

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CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT