

DEFEND ANTI-APARTHEID ACTIVISTS

1.

Two leading anti-apartheid activists in Canberra have been framed on false charges that carry a minimum of 14 years jail and which could mean life imprisonment.

Maxwell Nemadzivhanani is the former Australasian Chief Representative of the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), a major political organisation fighting against apartheid and exploitation in Azania (South Africa). Max has recently been appointed as PAC representative to the United Nations.

Kerry Browning, Maxwell's partner and wife, is an active member of Canberra's large anti-apartheid movement.

Maxwell and Kerry have been framed for the firebombings of South African and U.S. embassy cars in Canberra last year.

The frame-up has serious implications for the anti-apartheid movement and all progressive organisations and individuals in general.

Kerry Browning has been placed under virtual house arrest, forbidden from leaving her home at night.

"The PAC is committed to the overthrow of the Apartheid regime via armed struggle and a peoples war. However, this military front is confined to within the borders of South Africa. Further, this armed struggle is against the organs of apartheid South Africa such as its police and armed forces.

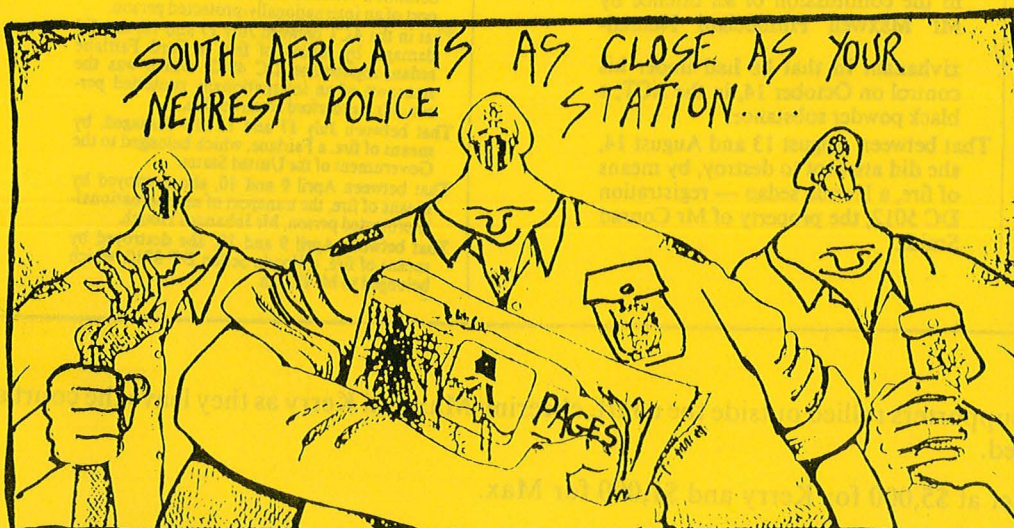
The PAC does not attack inanimate objects and does not conduct its military campaigns by blowing up empty cars or rubbish bins. The PAC is not engaged in anything illegal in Australia. Its role here in Australia is one of raising political and material support."

A broad based political campaign has developed to defend Maxwell and Kerry against the frame-up.

THE FRAME-UP — WHAT HAPPENED

14 October 1988.

Australian Federal Police, armed with weapons, search warrants and video cameras, raided Maxwell and Kerry's Canberra home. Simultaneously, the Canberra office of the PAC and Havelock House, Kerry's workplace, were raided. Over 40 police were involved. (Havelock House is an organisation providing housing for homeless people).



Federal Police claimed the raids were in connection with the recent bombing, in Canberra, of cars belonging to diplomats of the USA and the South African racist government. A handwritten note about the Sharpville Six (6 Black South African patriots then on Death Row in prison) was allegedly found near one of the bombed cars and this, police claimed, was a definite link to the PAC. The PAC had been spearheading an international campaign to have the Six released.

After an all day search, police removed dozens of bags containing PAC files, letters, photographs, address books, bank books, passports and other material which they claim were "relevant" to their investigation.

PAC Response

On the same day PAC Australasian office issued the following statement to media and political organisations, both nationally and internationally:—

"....The PAC reiterates, as it has to ACT police on previous occasions, that it is not involved in anything illegal in Australia and has no connection with the abovementioned acts. Clearly the ACT police are at their wits end on this matter and are looking for convenient scapegoats.

The PAC calls on the Australian Government, a self and often proclaimed opponent of apartheid South Africa, to give this opposition concrete meaning and—

- 1) Cease and harassment of the PAC in Australia.**
- 2) Close the south African embassy and all its organs in Australian.**

Any reluctance by the Australian Government to take such action must cast severe doubt on the sincerity of its opposition to apartheid."

17 October 1988

Max and Kerry are arrested and charged by Federal Police.

*** Charges against Max:—**

- 1) having under his control on October 14 black powder to use for the purpose of committing arson and destroying or damaging property.
- 2) being knowingly concerned in the commission of an offence by Ms Browning in that she had under her control black powder to use for the purpose of committing arson and destroying or damaging property.

*** Charges against Kerry:—**

Having under her control on October 14, in the ACT, a black powder substance which was to be used to destroy or damage property by means of fire.

Was directly and knowingly concerned in the commission of an offence by Mr Maxwell Humbelani Nemad-

zivhanani in that he had under his control on October 14, in the ACT, a black powder substance.

That between August 13 and August 14, she did attempt to destroy, by means of fire, a Honda sedan — registration DC 5012, the property of Mr Conrad Smith.

That between August 13 and 14, she did destroy, by means of fire, the transport of an internationally protected person.

That between August 13 and 14, she attempted to destroy, by means of fire, a Ford Falcon sedan, registration DC 4922, the property of Mr Smith.

That between August 13 and 14 she did attempt to commit a violent act upon the means of transport of an internationally-protected person.

That in the ACT between July 17 and 18, she did damage, by means of fire, a Ford Fairlane sedan, registration DC 4932, which was the transport of an internationally protected person, Mr Rutherford Dean Stickle.

That between July 17 and 18 she damaged, by means of fire, a Fairlane, which belonged to the Government of the United States.

That between April 9 and 10, she destroyed by means of fire, the transport of an internationally protected person, Mr Johannes Hough.

That between April 9 and 10, she destroyed by means of fire, a Honda Sedan DC 8710, which belonged to Mr Hough.

STOP PRESS!

Charges against Max now DROPPED!

Over 200 supporters rallied outside the court, cheering Max and Kerry as they leave the court after bail was granted.

Bail was set at \$5,000 for Kerry and \$1,000 for Max.

18 October — 21 November.

3.

During this period, two rallies are held in Canberra, one outside the Prime Minister's residence and the other outside the racist South African embassy, both rallies demanding the closure of the embassy and the dropping of the charges.

Further, two solidarity organisations spring up in Sydney and Canberra, known as the Coalition Against Apartheid, committed to fighting the frame-up.

A SECOND RAID!

On 21 November, the Federal Police raid the home of Max and Kerry for the second time (dare we suggest they found no evidence of ANY wrongdoing the first time around?). Search warrants exclude the media as witnesses. Police desperately search for anything at all they can use against Max and Kerry.

In a similar act of desperation, the police earlier that day, again raided Havelock House, Kerry's workplace. Again a desperate search for anything at all.

22 November 1988

* PAC Chief Representative issues following statement:—

"....I wonder if I am not still in South Africa when it becomes a crime to fight against the (South African) regime. Australia has become an extended stick of South Africa."

* Kerry arrested at her solicitor's office. Further trumped-up charges include sending threatening letters to the US Ambassador and to the police. Police claim these were written on paper similar to that confiscated from Havelock House (!) and that they indetified a quarter (!) fingerprint as belonging to Kerry.

* Bail is refused and Kerry is imprisoned overnight.

23 November 1988

At the Supreme Court, the judge grants bail on several conditions, the harshest of which is that Kerry must be **confined, under curfew**, to her home. To spend the night anywhere else, she will need court approval.

This is blatant house arrest; no different to South Africa with natural justice denied and no presumption of innocence until proven guilty.

SPOT THE

DIFFERENCE



HOUSE ARREST IN
SOUTH AFRICA

HOUSE ARREST IN
AUSTRALIA.

24 November 1988.

PAC Chief Representative is accosted and harrassed by police at Canberra airport, on his way to Adelaide to campaign against the frame-up. As a result, he misses his flight and a number of meetings in Adelaide had to be cancelled.

30 November 1988

Demonstrations held in Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra to highlight case.

1 December 1988

- * Max and Kerry appear in court for mention. Large demonstration outside the court.
- * Kerry is charged with 4 more counts under the Internationally Protected Persons Act plus 10 counts on unrelated matters concerning minor social security infringements. She now faces a total of 26 charges.
- * Both will appear in court on 17 April 1989 for a committal hearing with same restrictive bail conditions.
- * Federal Police continue to harass anti-apartheid activists in Sydney and canberra.

WHO ARE MAX NEMADZIVHANANI AND KERRY BROWNING?

Maxwell Nemadzivhanani has been the PAC Chief Representative in Australia based in Canberra. The PAC has succeeded in building a strong support group to pressure and lobby the Federal Government on South African issues, and to oppose the presence of apartheid South Africa in Australia.

Kerry Browning is a strong Pan Africanist and political activist and has vigorously campaigned on issues ranging from homelessness to unionism and feminist issues. In particular, she has been involved with the Aboriginal struggle for land rights, the Soweto Mobilisation Committee, Women Against Racism, and the Azania Support Group. She works full time, assisting homeless people.

Both Max and Kery helped establish an alternative embassy, the Southern Africa Liberation Centre, on grounds opposite the embassy of apartheid South Africa. Thus issuing a bold and courageous challenge to the legitimacy of apartheid South Africa's representation in this country.



**A WOMAN'S PLACE
IS IN THE STRUGGLE**

WHY ARE THEY ATTACKED?

5.

What are the reasons behind the frame-up?:—

1. The PAC is one of the major forces in the struggle to end apartheid and exploitation in South Africa. For this reason it is seen as a threat by the South African regime and, therefore, to be attacked at every possible level.

2. The PAC's uncompromising stance towards the Apartheid regime is at odds with the Australian Government's wish to have a negotiated settlement between the regime and its opponents.

3. Max and Kerry have been instrumental in bringing the struggle in South Africa to the attention of the Australian people. Much awareness and support has resulted for the PAC and the black people's struggle in South Africa. Thus exposing the Australian Government's hypocrisy in allowing the racist South African embassy to remain in Australia.

4. The PAC has not only successfully highlighted its own struggles back home, but has also taken part in the struggles of the people in this country. For instance they have embraced and actively supported the Aboriginal people's struggle as well as supporting Chilean, Palestinian, and other progressive migrant groups in their struggles.

5. The Australian Government, under pressure from the South African regime and their backers, the United States, has been pressured into finding convenient scapegoats for the car bombings.

6. The attack on the PAC in Australia is not isolated instance. It is part and parcel of the attacks by governments, Labor and Liberal, on a whole range of people and organisations who dare to stand up for their rights.

Organisations such as the BLF, the Aboriginal people, the SEQEB workers, the miners, womens' rights groups, migrant groups, in fact any individual or organisation involved in any form of struggle for better wages and conditions and a more just and fair society, have faced very brutal attacks.



Detention

Under the Internal Security Act, detention in prison may be for an unlimited period



Some of the 800 Soweto children arrested by security forces in raids on schools.



Sydney, 1986:- Police brutality in action against officials and members of the Builders Labourers Federation.

BLs RESIST POLICE ATTACK

OPPOSE THE FRAME-UP

6.

The frame-up of the PAC has serious implications for both the anti-apartheid struggle in South Africa, and for progressive movements in Australia. It should be opposed for these reasons:—

1. During their raid, the Federal Police took dozens of boxes of highly sensitive material, including names, addresses, overseas contacts and photographs, that are irrelevant to their supposed investigation, but which could be very dangerous if they fell into the hands of South African authorities. Given the historic links between Australian and overseas police forces, including the American, British and South African, the PAC justifiably fear that the information seized will be handed over to the regime.

2. Under the pretext of investigating the embassy car bombings, the Federal Police, over many months, have devoted an enormous amount of tax-payers money to the surveillance of a broad range of activists and progressive organisations.

3. Meanwhile, no-one has been brought to account for the arson attacks in Canberra on Public Radio 2XX and the BLF (both strong supporters of the PAC) and on the South African Liberation Centre.

Nor has anyone been brought to account for attacks on individuals such as the Reverend Dorothy McMahon (for her stand against apartheid) and property in Sydney by extremist racist group.

The frame-up of the PAC is a vicious attack on the anti-apartheid movement and on progressive movements in general. The main beneficiary of this whole exercise is the South African racist regime.

This system is exploitative and oppressive. Those who fight that exploitation and oppression will be subject to surveillance, intimidation and harassment. We stand unconditionally against, and resist, these attacks.

We must unite against the frame-up of the PAC, Max and Kerry.

Drop the charges!

Close the racist embassy!

Say NO to apartheid!



Coalition Against Apartheid

The coalition was formed to support Max and Kerry in fighting the frame-up. This means exerting pressure to get the charges dropped, increasing public awareness of the frame-up and raising money towards Max and Kerry's defence. As well as supporting the struggles of anti-apartheid activists and organisations, the coalition also takes a stand against political repression in Australia.

WHAT CAN BE DONE

1. Join the Coalition and help organise the widest possible campaign to end the frame-up. (See form below)

2. Get your trade union or other organisation to affiliate to the Coalition against Apartheid.

3. Get your organisation or union to endorse the campaign and pass this resolution:—

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THIS MEETING

Mindful of the Australian Government's often stated policy of opposition to racist Apartheid South Africa, and its failure to take concrete action against that regime,

this organisation calls on the Australian Government to

1) drop all charges against Maxwell Nemadzivhanani, Chief Representative of the PAC, and anti-apartheid activist Kerry Browning

2) cease attacks on and harassment of the PAC and anti-apartheid activists in this country

3) fully adopt the position of the United Nations and the Organisation of African Unity and officially recognise and support both the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) and the African National Congress (ANC)

4) close the South African embassy and all its organs in Australia

Adopted.....

4. Write a letter of protest to the Prime Minister, Bob Hawke, and the Foreign Affairs Minister, Gareth Evans and send them a copy of the resolution.

Send a copy of the resolution to the Coalition Against Apartheid.

Forthcoming events

Sydney:—* Sharpeville Day Commemoration Rally, 1.30pm, Sydney Town Hall, 18th March 1989.
Speakers, Street Theatre.

*Afrika Nite, Paddington Town Hall, Friday, 7.30pm, 31 March.

*Forthnightly Coalition meetings. Next meeting on March 12, at 3.30pm Heffron Hall, Palmer St, Darlinghurst.

Canberra:—*Afrika Nite, Gorman House, Saturday 18 March.

*Sharpeville Rally, Garema Place, 12noon, 21 March. Speakers, street theatre.

*Afrika Nite, Griffin Centre, Saturday 8 April

*Court appearance of Max and Kerry, Monday 17 April

*Regular Coalition meetings. Contact at address below.

Melbourne:—*Sharpeville Rally, General Post Office, Cnr Elizabeth & Burke Sts, 11am, Saturday 18 March.— Speakers, entertainers, theatre.

JOIN THE COALITION!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

Post to *Coalition Against Apartheid

GPO Box 4
CANBERRA ACT 2601

*Coalition Against Apartheid
PO Box A691
SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 2000

*Coalition Against Apartheid
P.O. Box 110
Clarence Gardens 5039
South Australia.

*"Drop the Charges" Committee
c/- Jerome Small
Radio 3CR
PO Box 277
COLLINGWOOD VIC 3066

Many organisations and individuals have endorsed the Coalition's campaign and have sent messages of support as well as donations of money, paper, etc.

For this we are grateful and thank all for their contributions.

However, we have still a long way to go and need LOTS more support, money, material assistance, etc.

PLEASE HELP! it could be you or your organisation under attack next!

Below we print only a small number, due to space limitations, of the 80 or more organisations and individuals that have endorsed the campaign:—

Ngannawal Land Council
Public Radio 2XX
Canberra Peace Centre
Women Against Racism
Havelock House Committee
Social Welfare Union (ACT, NSW)
Miners Federation
Public Service Association (NSW)
Reverend Dorothy McMahon
Tiga Bayles
Builders Labourers' Federation

ACT Trades & Labor Council
Community Radio 3CR
Radio Redfern/RSR Connexion
Aust. Nurses Federation (ACT)
Women Against Racism
Students Against Racism
Phillipines Aust. Solidarity Group
Central American Solidarity Association
Women United for Chile
ACT Teachers Federation
Carpenters & Joiners Union (ACT)
and many more!.....

DONATIONS

Money is URGENTLY needed to meet legal costs
which are estimated at over \$30,000.

ONE RACE, THE HUMAN RACE

The PAC believes in only one race, the human race. In a free democratic and socialist Azania, everyone who owes his/her allegiance to that free Azania will be regarded as Azanian irrespective of colour, creed or religion.

PAN AFRICANIST CONGRESS OF AZANIA (PAC)

The PAC is a national liberation movement fighting for the overthrow of the apartheid regime in South Africa.

Formed in Soweto, Azania (South Africa) on the 6th April 1959, the PAC sought to challenge the apartheid state at its very core. At Sharpeville in March 1960, the PAC launched the first major confrontation between the forces of African Nationalism and that of the apartheid regime. The apartheid regime's subsequent massacre of 69 unarmed black people at Sharpeville marked a turning point in the struggle for freedom. It marked the end of the dialogue and the beginning of the armed struggle.

It is the PAC's belief that

- * Apartheid cannot be reformed — it must be totally eradicated
- * the main vehicle for change is the oppressed black majority and not the apartheid regime nor the white minority
- * the principal form of struggle is the armed struggle spearheaded by the PAC military wing — the Azanian Peoples Liberation Army (APLA)
- * the struggle will be fought and won by the people inside Azania and that international efforts can only be complementary to that struggle.

International Recognition

Internationally, the PAC is recognised and supported by the United Nations, the Organisation of African Unity, the Non Aligned National Movement, the World Council of Churches, and progressive governments and organisations throughout Africa and the rest of the world, including Australia.

APARTHEID SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa is the only country in the world which has institutionalised racism through both laws and violence. it is the only country in the world where a minority pursues policies which bar the majority from job opportunities and training, segregates schools, residential, sporting and recreational areas all on a racial basis.

South Africa is the last white minority government on an independent African continent. It is a country which practices detention without trial, torture and murder of detainees in prison; enforced removals of the population; dismissal and deportation to rural areas of trade unionists.

South Africa is very rich in mineral and agricultural resources. The bulk of the workforce is black. The population is made up of about 30 million blacks and 5 million whites. Yet the majority of blacks live in only 13% of the land — the most desolate and arid parts of the country.

The struggle for a free Azania is a struggle for the return of the land to the majority of the population.

Popular dissatisfaction and opposition to the apartheid regime has been met by violence from the apartheid military state e.g. Sharpeville (1960), Soweto (1976), and since 1985 the state of emergency.

In this climate, the PAC declared the 1980's to be the decade of the Azanian Revolution; 1987 was the year of arming the people and 1988 a year of consolidation.

AUSTRALASIAN OFFICE

The PAC has representatives in various parts of the world. The Australasian Office was established in Canberra in 1984.

The Australasian Office of the PAC has the responsibility to

- * distribute information and material on PAC activities and the unfolding liberation struggle in occupied Azania
- * lobby the Australian and other Governments in the region to impose sanctions on trade, investments, sport, cultural and all exchanges with apartheid South Africa
- * raise material and political support for humanitarian projects administered by the PAC
- * raise funds to maintain the Australasian Office of the PAC.