

PRESS RELEASE BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY REGARDING THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION

1. It is confirmed that representations have been received from the Free State Consolidated Gold Mines (Operations) Limited (Freegold) in connection with the unfortunate death and injury of a number of employees of the President Steyn Gold Mine on Sunday, 3 November 1991.

2. I am surprised that Freegold considered it to be proper or appropriate unilaterally to make public the contents of its letter to me which was received late yesterday afternoon. I accept that Freegold was fully entitled to make public the fact of its approach to the Commission. However, it is not conducive to the effective functioning of the Commission if the contents of communications to and from the Commission are treated as public documents.

3. To enable the Commission to decide what action to take in this serious matter, interested parties will immediately be requested to supply the Commission with information which they may have at their disposal regarding the event.

PRETORIA

6 NOVEMBER 1991

PERSVERKLARING UITGEREIK DEUR DIE VOORSITTER VAN DIE KOMMISSIE VAN ONDERSOEK RAKENDE DIE VOORKOMING VAN OPENBARE GEWELD EN INTIMIDASIE

1. Dit word bevestig dat vertoë van die Free State Consolidated Gold Mines (Operations) Beperk (Freegold) in verband met die dood en besering van werknemers van die President Steyn Goudmyn op Sondag, 3 November 1991, ontvang is.

2. Dit verbaas my dat Freegold dit van pas gevind het om die inhoud van hulle skrywe aan my, wat laat gister middag ontvang is, eensydiglik openbaar te maak. Ek aanvaar dat Freegold ten volle daarop geregtig is om die feit dat hulle die Kommissie genader het, openbaar te maak. Dit is egter nie vir die behoorlike funksionering van die Kommissie bevorderlik indien die inhoud van mededeling aan en van die Kommissie as openbare dokumente beskou word, nie.

3. Om die Kommissie in staat te stel om te kan besluit welke stappe ten opsigte van hierdie ernstige aangeleentheid gedoen moet word, sal die belanghebbendes onmiddellik versoek word om inligting aangaande die voorval, waaroor hulle mag beskik, aan die Kommissie voor te lê.

PRETORIA

6 NOVEMBER 1991