AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

Western Cape Region McHal-28-1-17



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PRESS STATEMENT

The statement yesterday by Justice Minister Mr Kobie Coetsee that Western Cape police stations and hostels have been targeted by MK members is patent nonsense.

Like the statements made by General Meiring about ANC arms and personnel being imported into Natal for the Shaka Day celebrations, and those issued prior to the Bisho massacre, these allegations about ANC intentions to resort to arms and violence are groundless and totally ludicrous.

Neither in this case, nor in any of the others mentioned is there any kind of evidence to support these preposterous claims which appear to be rooted solely in the desire to produce a public image of a warlike and violent ANC.

More ridiculous still is Kobie Coetsee's suggestion that hostel dwellers in the Western Cape are a likely target for MK activities. Mr Coetsee is well aware that the hostel dwellers in the Western Cape are one of the strongest and best organised areas of support for the ANC in this Region. We must conclude, therefore, that not only is he guilty of inventing facts for his own party political purposes, but that he is being deliberately malicious.

We dismiss this kind of crude and baseless propaganda by the NP and the police with the contempt it deserves. We are, however, deeply concerned about the fact that, while the ANC and other democratic organisations are deeply committed to working for peace and the resolution of violence in South Africa, other parties seem determined - through the issuing of such irresponsible statements - to fan the flames of confrontation and conflict.

Issued by Tony Yengeni, Secretary
For more information please contact Susan de Villiers 448-5651 or 689-2373

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