

## **POINTS FOR NELSON MANDELA'S PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE WORLD TRADE CENTRE - JUNE 25, 1993**

### **1. Focus on the Regime**

- \* The security forces had prior knowledge of the planned armed protest. This included public statements from forces such as the AWB. Yet they did nothing to protect people or property. The access gates were left open, and the armed demonstrators appear to have been actually escorted to the World Trade Centre.
- \* There has been no arrest of the perpetrators, or any action against those involved in such criminal actions.
- \* The government has failed in its responsibilities to either take pre-emptive action to protect the negotiation forum, or subsequently to deal with those determined to derail the process and plunge our country into civil war. The inaction of the police is in sharp contrast with the way in which they have consistently dealt with demonstrators who are black. They have never hesitated to use live ammunition, tear gas, batons or dogs against unarmed black demonstrators.

### **2. Right Wing**

- \* The clear intention is to derail the negotiations and create the atmosphere of civil war. This was also made clear by Constand Viljoen who,

on entering the World Trade Centre in the wake of the armoured personnel carrier that deliberately was driven through the glass front into the Centre, is reported to have said "we have now taken over". Viljoen, Hartzenberg and Langley were the first to enter the premises through the opening.

\* The Volksfront, which mounted this attack, is led by Ferdie Hartzenberg, leader of the Conservative Party and of the official opposition in parliament. The Conservative Party is a participant in the multi-party negotiations, and a signatory as recently as Tuesday to the declaration on the cessation of hostilities.

\* The purpose of this demonstration was to prevent confirmation of an election date

### **3. Demands**

\* The immediate arrest and prosecution of the perpetrators and instigators of this act of aggression, including the leaders.

\* Speedy progress in the negotiations to reach a conclusion of the process and the installation of the TEC

\* Firm agreement on an election date

\* The urgent implementation of multi party

control of the security forces. The existing security forces have again proved that they cannot be entrusted to manage the transition. This was again demonstrated by their absolute inability or unwillingness to act timeously and appropriately.

#### **4. Call to our People**

- \* We call on all South Africans, black and white, across the race and colour lines, to stand up in defence of democracy. Only the masses of our people, in their organised formations and through disciplined mass action, can defend and advance the gains made.
- \* The anti-democratic forces must be completely isolated particularly the right wing which must not be allowed to hold the whole country and transition to ransom.
- \* We cannot allow South Africa, and our entire future, to be held hostage to terrorism.
- \* We make a special call on the Afrikaner people to repudiate this outrage which the organisers perpetrated in their name.
- \* Once again Minister Hernus Kriel has proved unable to match the needs of the times, and should resign forthwith.
- \* Thursday 1 July is a day of national action in

defence of democracy. We call on all our people, from every walk of life including representatives of business, religious bodies and other sectors of civil society, to join us in nationwide demonstrations, rallies and marches.

**DEFEND DEMOCRACY!**

**END RIGHT WING TERRORISM!**

for all regions