

Methuen-96-3-5

***** TX REPORT *****

Jun. 03 1994 9:13AM

RECEIVING FACSIMILE	MODE	PAGES	START TIME	USAGE TIME	RESULT
0123267277	TX	02	Jun. 03 9:11AM	01'28	OK

***** TX REPORT *****

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Jun. 03 1994 9:10AM *

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* RECEIVING FACSIMILE MODE PAGES START TIME USAGE TIME RESULT *

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* 0123267277 TX 01 Jun. 03 9:09AM 01'22 OK *

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Oliver Reginald Tambo or OR as he was commonly known had a life-long and deep interest in education. He himself never gave up studying. He was always interested in new ideas. If there were two things he loved it was people and ideas. It is well-known that he was a lawyer and a political leader. Less well-known is the fact that for a number of years he was a teacher. More than that he was an inspired teacher who developed a love of learning in a generation of pupils many of whom went on to become prominent leaders in public life (for example Nathaniel Masemola and Fikile Bam). The school he taught at was St Peters in Johannesburg, a school that was associated with Father Trevor Huddleston and that was later to be crushed by Bantu Education. People who worked with OR soon came to know his great respect for honest and accurate use of language. He hated empty slogans and cheap use of language. In spite of being an extremely experienced speaker, he would work on his speeches to late in the night to get them just right. For him it was a matter of dignity - the cause which he espoused deserved nothing but the best. At the same time he was always looking out for the best in everybody. He sensed a deep and extensive patriotism shared by almost all South Africans that was waiting to be released and acknowledged. When others were attacking this section or that from amongst the oppressed, he would say we can turn them into traitors if we drive them in that direction and give them no alternative. Similarly he always insisted on dialogue with those who were running the system of oppression. He knew how important it was to involve them in the process of transformation. The victory would be far greater if they themselves came to accept the wrongfulness and hurt caused by their policies and to participate in the rebuilding of a true and diverse South African nation.

In her first speech in Parliament his widow, Adelaide Tambo, pointed out that OR had died a year before the new democratic government was elected. "My greatest regret," she said, "was not that he could not take his place here in Parliament. My deepest pain is that he was never able to vote."

The renaming of the school keeps his name alive. This school will be a living memorial to Oliver Tambo and everything he stood for.

Biographical notes:

FAX	TO: <u>DEPT OF NATIONAL EDUCATION</u>
FAX NO: <u>012 - 3267277</u>	PAGE: <u>2</u> OF: _____
ATTENTION OF: <u>DR J.C. PAUW</u>	_____
FROM: <u>ALBIE SACHS</u>	DATE: <u>2/6/94</u>
COMPANY: _____	_____
FAX NO: <u>021 - 222626</u>	Post-it ™ Notes from 3M

OR was born in a part of the Northern Transkei referred to as Pondoland. He studied at Fort Hare and was expelled for leading student resistance to the paternalism of the authorities. He went to Johannesburg where he became a teacher at St Peters School which was supported by the Anglican Church. He had a special interest in choral music and for a time managed the school soccer team. After qualifying as an attorney, he set up the first black legal partnership in Johannesburg with Nelson Mandela. One of the founders of the ANC Youth League in the early 1940's, he became an ANC leader in the Transvaal and later was elected Secretary-General of the organisation under Chief Albert Luthuli. In 1958 he drafted a new constitution for the ANC which envisaged the organisation one day opening its membership to all South Africans. Arrested many times, placed under banning orders and charged with treason, he was eventually sent out of the country at the time of Sharpeville in 1960 to establish an external mission for the ANC. When Albert Luthuli was killed by a train in 1967, OR was made Acting President of the ANC. He more than any other single individual was responsible for building up the ANC in exile. He reconstructed the National Executive Committee, established contact with the internal resistance and with prisoners on Robben Island. His broad vision, modesty, respectful way of dealing with people, openmindedness and lack of demagoguery made him specially loved by the members. Anyone could approach him. He listened respectfully to everybody. He never pushed himself, he never sought glory or acclaim. Much of his activity was in Africa where he worked with heads of state of the most diverse political persuasion, his one objective being the liberation of South Africa and the achievement of freedom and equality for all. A deeply religious person, OR never pushed his beliefs on to anyone else and fully respected the rights of conscience for all. One of his great aims in life was to bring believers of different faiths, persuasions and denominations together and also to encourage working together between believers and non-believers. An issue which was close to his heart was that of the emancipation of women. He felt that the matter was a complex one that needed sensitive handling, but always with a view to enabling women to realise their full potential and to feel free as human being. Not a military person himself, he was loved by the members of MK because of his honesty, steadfastness and adherence to principle. OR was a natural democrat, a person of broad vision, tactful, kindly, courteous, principled, firm and totally honest. He hated intrigue and factionalism. He stood for all that was best in South Africa and encouraged each person who worked with him to find the best in himself or herself.

MESSAGE CONFIRMATION

06-02-94 17:48

PHONE NUMBER : 0123267277

PAGES : 02

START TIME : 06-02-94 17:46

ELAPSED TIME : 01' 38"

MODE : 9600/STD/MR

RESULTS : O.K

MESSAGE CONFIRMATION

05-19-94 13:42

PHONE NUMBER : 0123267277

PAGES : 01

START TIME : 05-19-94 13:41

ELAPSED TIME : 00' 44"

MODE : 9600/STD/MR

RESULTS : O.K

MESSAGE CONFIRMATION

05-19-94 13:40

PHONE NUMBER : 0123267277

PAGES : 01

START TIME : 05-19-94 13:39

ELAPSED TIME : 00' 40"

MODE : 9600/STD/MR

RESULTS : O.K

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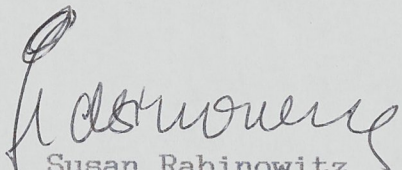
TO: DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL EDUCATION
FAX NO: 012 - 326 7277
ATTENTION: DR J C PAUW
FROM: ALBIE SACHS
DATE: 18 MAY 1994
RE: CONFERENCE ON PROPOSED PAN SA
LANGUAGE BOARD

Dear Dr Pauw

I attach a copy of Albie's fax to you of 20th April.

Please advise us of the details of the conference. Albie is keen to make a contribution.

Yours sincerely


Susan Rabinowitz
Assistant to Albie Sachs

Encl:

Fax (021) 222626
Tel (021) 222424

1002 NBS Waldorf
80 St George's Mall
P O Box 3684
CAPE TOWN 8000

TO: DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL EDUCATION
FAX NO: 012 - 326 7277
ATTENTION: DR J C PAUW
FROM: ALBIE SACHS
DATE: 20 APRIL 1994
RE: CONFERENCE ON PROPOSED PAN SA
LANGUAGE BOARD

Dear Koos

I was delighted to learn from you about the Conference on a Pan South African Language Board. How do you propose that we work together on the draft Bill? I will be happy to make whatever contribution I can.

With best wishes.

pp. Albie Sachs
Albie
Professor Albie Sachs

c.c. Fink Haysom
c.c. ANC Department of Arts and Culture