

**Algemeen Christelijke Politiebond
Nederlandse Politiebond
Vereniging van Middelbare en Hogere Politie-ambtenaren**

The Hague, 26 March 1992

State President mr. F.W. de Klerk
State President's Office
Private Bag X 83
PRETORIA 0001
SOUTH AFRICA
faxno: 09-27123238866

Dear Sir,

The police trade unions ACP, NPB and VMHP, representing 90% of all the employees who are working for the Dutch policeforces, would like to ask your attention for the following.

It is known to you, that a delegation of our police trade unions made a visit to your country to investigate whether one could speak of a certain democratization process within SAP and to support assistance to POPCRU, the trade union for police-officers and warders, which is not recognized in your country. We were very disappointed to acknowledge that the delegation had to ascertain that it was out of the question that there was some form of democratic disposition within SAP and that members of POPCRU - who are trying to do everything to realize reasonable demands concerning labourconditions, as well as the maintenance of fundamental human rights by the police and in the prisons, and who have waged a campaign to achieve this - were confronted with dismissal, suspension and demotion.

The chairman of POPCRU as well, Gregory Rockman, according to Lieutenant-General Van Eyk a very capable policeman, appeared to have been dismissed.

Meanwhile we received the information that again a "board of enquiry" will start coming April 14th in Kirkwood (Eastern Cape) against 7 members of POPCRU and that three other disciplinary trials have come to a close. In Grahamstown this has resulted in the recommendation to dismiss 2 of the 27 accused; in Cape Town (Pollsmoor) 12 accused are faced with dismissal (including POPCRU's secretary Peter Loggenberg), 2 with demotion and 56 others can come back but will be demoted in seniority from 1 till 3 years. The government has to make the final decision.

Also in Diepkloof/Johannesburg the "board of enquiry" against 110 members of POPCRU had ended, but the publication of the proposed punishment will be postponed indefinitely.

./2

For this reason we are addressing to you.

We are very shocked by the fact that, despite of all your intentions to end "apartheid", the latter still doesn't apply to members of POPCRU, who are dedicating themselves with so much courage for a democratic and just policeforce and prison apparatus.

It is in our belief, that the formation of trade unions is a principle of human rights. Moreover, POPCRU-members, who resist to apartheid and who are fighting for the normal rights of police-officers, warders and civilians are a very important element in the democratization and humanizing of the SAP and the prison system, which is now more necessary than ever. This is most urgent because at the moment great changes are taking place in South Africa. A large majority of white voters have chosen for a radical reconciliation and have given you ample mandate to continue negotiations with the black majority for a new constitution. You have made yourself very clear that you had closed the book on apartheid forever!

Therefore we make a strong appeal to your government to make an end to the persecution of POPCRU-members, to rectify all dismissals and other punishments and to recognize the right to free formation of trade unions within the policeforce and the prison apparatus.

Yours sincerely,

ACP
M.C. Blijleven

NPB
R. Flanderijn

VMHP
P. van Brakel

6/0
Mrs. Anneke S.C. Visser
Postbus 264
2501 CG THE HAGUE
THE NETHERLANDS

C.c. Mr. Nelson Mandela
Codesa