

## **ANC STATEMENT FROM MOZAMBIQUE**

The ANC of SA has said that a meeting between the Pope and the SA PM PW Botha would hurt the prestige of the Vatican. The Director of the ANC international department, Johnny Makatini, told reporters in Maputo that it was in the interests of the Pope not to go ahead with such a meeting. Mr Botha is currently in Italy at the end of a tour of Western European countries. Mr Makatini said the tour had been a fiasco because it had not brought the intended results. Mr Botha had wanted to win more access to and friendship from the countries he visited, involving them in violations of the arms embargo and the entrenchment of the apartheid system. Mr Makatini said these intentions had been defeated, and the host governments had been forced by world opinion to lecture Mr Botha.

Mr Makatini has been visiting Maputo with the ANC President, Oliver Tambo. They held a meeting with President Samora Machel on 8th June. Mr Makatini described the discussions as comradely. Mr Makatini said Oliver Tambo's visit to Mozambique was in response to an invitation by President Samora Machel within the framework of the longstanding friendship and solidarity between the ANC and Frelimo. The ANC official said that there was mutual understanding and appreciation of each other's views about the current situation in southern Africa. The ANC and Mozambique, he said, were inspired by oneness of purpose, which was the total liberation of Africa.

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