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COPY OF PROPOSED HANDBOOK FOR VOLUNTEERS

(Incomplete)

Welcome, Freedom Volunteer,

We welcome you to the ranks of our volunteer corps! We welcome you to the ranks of those who carry on their shoulders the great task of bringing into reality the 'Congress of the People'. We welcome you to the ranks of the active organisers and leaders of our peoples fights for liberty and equality.

A Volunteer is something special! He is more than just a Congressman, who pays his subscriptions and attends his branch meetings. He is, above all that, an active worker for the Congress cause. He is one who gives up his spare time and his leisure, his evenings, week-ends and holidays, to do active work for the Congress movement. He is one who takes on himself the work of explaining, convincing and teaching others that our cause is right. He is a leader of his people in the long, hard struggles for freedom.

Therefore, A Volunteer Must Be A Disciplined Worker!

He must always be ready to work with the others on whatever the majority has decided must be done. He must be ready to carry out the orders and the wishes of his Congress and Volunteer Corps leaders. He must be ready to help others, but also to learn from them, to listen to others and take their advice. He must be prepared to work together with other Volunteers, loyally, without petty disputes and squabbles.

Therefore, A Volunteer Must Learn to Lead: Those who join our volunteer Corps must learn to

understand our Congress movement and what it stands for. They must study and learn to understand how our people live, and how their lives can be bettered by freedom. They must learn to use their knowledge and understanding to guide the people they live and work amongst on all the daily problems and troubles of their lives. They must learn how to pass their own understanding on to others, in the buses, and trains and streets and factories, so that they can become real leaders of the community, helping and guiding others towards their freedom. Such people are volunteers! They are something special! There is no prouder title in our movement or amongst our people than the title of 'Freedom Volunteers' Those who hold it, must live up to it!

What then are Freedom Volunteers expected to do.

A Volunteer must organise: In the first place he must organise other Congress men and women to join the "Freedom Volunteers". He must explain to them what is expected of a Volunteer, and fire their imagination with the glorious freedom that active work can win. He must call together all the volunteers in his neighbourhood group. He must take part in electing a Group Leader, and pledge himself to carry out the decisions of his Group, and respect the authority of his group leader. He must go out with his group, into the streets and houses and working-places of the people explaining Congress policy to them, winning them to support the Congress and to unite with others in the campaigns of Congress is conducting. A Volunteer is a freedom organiser!

A volunteer must plan! He must meet regularly, each week, with his Group, and discuss what the group is to do help in the Congress campaign of the moment. He must decide with Group what each and all of them are to do to carry the Congress campaign to the people of his area. He must plan to use all his week spreading the Congress idea and the Congress message in his home area and his working place. He must plan how to bring the of his area into the whole nation-wide campaign which Congress headquarters is conducting and how to win the peoples' confidence the Congress movement. He must check up on what was decided before, and see that it was thoroughly carried out by all his And he must plan to see that the weaknesses and failures of his week are not repeated again in the future. A Volunteer is a planner!

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**A Volunteer Must Work:** He must carry out loyally, with all his ability, every detail of everything he agreed with his group to do. He must set a high standard of reliability, and of devotion to the Congress cause, which will encourage others to copy him. He must strive to be the most active worker in every aspect of every Congress campaign, in his area or his place of work. He must work always to get others, from inside the Congresses and from outside it, to work and grow to be Congressmen and Volunteers. He must seek to win the trust of the people, by doing every freedom task that arises with all his strength. And he must keep eyes and ears open for every opportunity to put in a word for Congress policy, and to strike a blow for Congress campaigns. A volunteer is a freedom worker!

**A Volunteer must teach:** He must teach people that the road to freedom lies through unity with their fellow-men in the struggle led by Congress. He must teach them that their freedom will only be won through their own efforts, and that their strength lies only in unity and organisation. He must teach them to see, in all their little struggles and campaigns, seeds of the great national struggle for freedom which is going on and moving towards victory. He must spread amongst the people understanding and knowledge, by distributing to them the Congress leaflet and pamphlets and the publications Inyaniso, Fighting Talk and Liberation, New Age, which support Congress aims. But to do all this, the volunteer must himself study, learn and discuss. He must study with his group the study notes which will be issued to volunteers. He must discuss with his group the problems which he meets that arises from the lives of his people. He must listen to the opinions of others and learn from them, so that he can become an expert in the field of organisation for freedom, and pass on to others the understanding which will help them to go forward. A volunteer is a student and teacher of freedom!

It is not given to everybody to have the high qualities of a volunteer! That is why we say that a volunteer is something special! He is a leader and organiser of his people who sets the cause of freedom higher than his own comfort and well-being.

Our volunteer movement was started to build the 'Congress of the People'. This is the first and greatest task we set before all Volunteers. Into this work, our volunteers must fit all the other daily, urgent tasks - the fight against Group Areas, Rent Increases, Bantu Education - like individual bricks in the building of a great wall. What are the special tasks of Volunteers in the campaign for the Congress of the People - the great wall of freedom we are building.

There is 'The Call'. 'The Call to the Congress of the People' has now been published in most languages. Our volunteer groups must use it, carefully and thoroughly, to win new supporters for the campaign. 'The Call' must be taken by volunteers to all the important, prominent and influential people in the groups' area work. It must be put into peoples' hands, and carefully discussed with them, so that they understand fully what the Congress of the People is. It must be discussed with Vigilance Committee men, Advisory Board members and trade union officials; with teachers and preachers; with womens' leaders and sports officials; with residents organisations and teachers association leaders; with chiefs, headmen and tribal elders. No one ~~man~~ who has influence in the community must be missed out. And all must be asked to take a hand in the work of building the C.O.P. They must be asked and encouraged to help canvass others with "The Call". And the most active and influential of these must be asked to serve on a local street, suburban, work, township or factory 'Congress of the People Committee'. This is the first task of all volunteers.

**The local Congress of the People Committee:** It is now time to set these committees up everywhere. Our volunteer groups must see that they spring up everywhere first in the area where the group is working; but after that our group must spread also to neighbouring areas where there is no volunteer group.



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**RECORDS RELATING TO THE 'TREASON TRIAL' (REGINA vs F. ADAMS AND OTHERS ON CHARGE OF HIGH TREASON, ETC.), 1956 1961**

**TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961**

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