

27/4/78.

NNN

1345:DAILY SERIAL 04 MORNINGERS SPECIAL:

271300 SOBUKWE ONE EXGEOFFREY ALLEN LONDON MONDAY

AS ANTI-APARTHEID SUPPORTERS IN LONDON TODAY (MONDAY)- MOURNED THE DEATH OF PAN AFRICAN CONGRESS LEADER ROBERT SOBUKWE, MRS WENTY WOODS, WIFE OF BANNED FORMER DAILY DESPATCH EDITOR DONALD WOODS, ALLEGED THAT SECURITY BRANCH POLICEMEN HAD DRIVEN MR SOBUKWE TO AND FROM AN ILLEGAL MEETING WITH HER HUSBAND IN KIMBERLEY. MRS WOODS SAID THE MEETING TOOK PLACE IN THE ROOM OCCUPIED BY SHE AND HER HUSBAND IN THE KIMBERLEY HOTEL.

SPECIAL BRANCH MEN WATCHING MR SOBUKWE WHO WAS UNDER HOUSE ARREST AND BANNED, OFFERED HIM A LIFT TO THE HOTEL, AND LATER, JUST BEFORE THE 6PM TIME LIMIT BY WHICH HE HAD TO BE IN HIS HOME, DROVE HIM BACK SHE SAID. THE MEETING TOOK PLACE WHEN THE WOODS'S WENT TO KIMBERLEY TO FETCH ONE OF THEIR SONS FROM BOARDING SCHOOL. +IT WAS JUST BEFORE WE HEARD THAT ROBERT SOBUKWE HAD CANCER,+ MRS WOODS SAID. MR WOODS HAD HEARD THAT MR SOBUKWE WAS A FAN OF HIS YNDICATED COLUMN AND HAD ARRANGED THE MEETING BY PHONE. +WHEN HE ARRIVED TO HAVE TEA WITH US IN THE HOTEL HE SEEMED SUBLIMELY UNCONCERNED AT BREAKING HIS BANNING AND HOUSE ARREST ORDERS. HE WAS A MOST GENTLE AND UNMILITANT PERSON WITH A GREAT INTELLECT AND A PATIENCE AND LACK OF BITTERNESS ONE HAS SEEN IN OTHER BANNED PEOPLE,+ SHE SAID.

MORE

NNN

1345:DAILYSERIAL 05 MORNINGS SPECIAL:

SOBUKWE TWO - SHE SAID THAT MR SOBUKWE FOUND KIMBERLEY A CULTURAL WILDERNESS AND FOUND THERE WAS NO STIMULATION FOR HIM THERE INTELLECTUALLY. +DONALD ASKED WHY HE HAD BEEN BANNED TO KIMBERLEY AND HE SAID THAT EVERYONE IN THE AFRICAN TOWNSHIP THERE WAS EITHER AN INFORMER OR RELATED TO AN INFORMER IN THE SPICAL BRANCH. DONALD AND HE GOT ON LIKE A HOUSE ON FIRE,+ SHE SAID. THE MEETING TOOK PLACE ONLY DAYS BEFORE THE DEATH OF MR WOODS' CLOSE FRIEND AND POLITICAL MENTOR, BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS MOVEMENT LEADER STEVE BIKO. +I REMEMBER THAT IT WAS A DOUBLE AND TERRIBLE BLOW THAT WE HEARD THAT SOBUKWE HAD CANCER JUST BEFORE STEVE'S DEATH. IT SEEMED SO UNFAIR THAT SOBUKWE WHO HAD FOUGHT SO HARD FOR SO LONG AND GONE THROUGH THE WHOLE GAMBIT WOULD NEVER SEE THE RESULTS JUST AT A TIME WHEN WE THOUGHT THERE WAS SO MUCH HOPE FOR CHANGE WITH STEVE AROUND,+ MRS WOODS SAID. THE ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT IN LONDON EXPRESSED SORROW AT MR SOBUKWE'S DEATH AND SAID THAT THE PAC IN LONDON WOULD ORGANISE A MEMEROAIL SERVICE PROBABLY ON SATURDAY, AND ALMOST CERTAINLY IN ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

ENDS

PUBLISHER:

Publisher:- **Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand**

Location:- **Johannesburg**

©2010

LEGAL NOTICES:

Copyright Notice: All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Disclaimer and Terms of Use: Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of paper documents and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

DOCUMENT DETAILS:

Document ID:- **A2618-Cn5-4**

Document Title:- **Two part telexed report about Sobukwe meeting with Donald Woods in Kimberley**

Document Date:- **27 February 1978**