

ABX. 457905

A. N. C.

ABX/ARM.

5th September 5.

The Secretary,
African National Congress (Transvaal),
P. O. Box 9207,
JOHANNESBURG.

Dear Sir,

I shall be glad to address the Annual
Provincial Conference (African National Congress,
Transvaal) on Sunday the 30th September, 1945, at
Germiston Location.

I wonder if you could be good enough to
put me down for 11.30 a.m. instead of 10.30 a.m.

Wishing your Conference every success.

Yours faithfully,

PRESIDENT-GENERAL

African National Congress

(TRANSVAAL PROVINCE)

All Communications to be
addressed to the Secretary

DWB/LT.

Rosenberg Arcade
58 Market Street,
JOHANNESBURG.

6th September 1945.

Dr. A.B. Xuma,
President-General A.N. Congress,
104, End Street,
JOHANNESBURG.

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst., in which you accept the invitation to address the Annual Provincial Conference of the African National Congress (Tvl), on Sunday the 30th September, 1945, at Germiston Location, and in reply I have the pleasure to inform you that we shall gladly put you down for 11.30 A.M., as requested.

I am,
Yours Faithfully,

DWB
SECRETARY.

ABX.450906t

DAUGHTERS OF AFRICA ASSOCIATION.

Politics - General

43 Thirtennth Avenue,
Alexandra Township,
P.O.Bergvlei,
JOHANNESBURG.

6th September, 1945.

Dr. A.B.Xuma, President General,
African National Congress,
104 End Street,
Doornfontein,
JOHANNESBURG.

Dear Sir, Daughters are holding their National
Federal Council at Newcastle, Natal, from the 4th to
the 7th of October, 1945, and my Committee has in-
structed me to kindly request you, if you could be
able ~~TO OPEN~~ **TO OPEN** THE FIRST FEDERAL COUNCIL OF AFRICAN WOMEN.
on any day that that will be convenient for the Doctor.

I thank you in advance for your kind and
early reply.

Yours faithfully,
C.L.Tshabalala,

C. L. Tshabalala.

General Organiser of the D.O.A.

Race Relations 6/9/1945

ABX 450906c

R. R. 128/45
NMC. 6/9/45

SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS (INCORP.)

MEMORANDUM ON THE DEMOBILISATION OF
AFRICAN VOLUNTEERS.

(Revised to 6/9/45)

DEMOBILISATION ORGANISATION

The main African Dispersal Depot is at Modder Bee and sub dispersal depots have been set up at Holfontein, Spaarwater, Palmietkuil North and Driefontein. Final dispersal work is also now being undertaken by Demobilisation Teams of officers and men supplied by the Non-European Army Services and transferred to Demobilisation. A certain amount of decentralisation has taken place by effecting discharges at such centres as Voortrekkerhoogte, Premier Mine and Cape Town, where demobilisation teams are now in operation. The whole process is being decentralised so that the men will, as far as possible, be discharged and sent on their way home from their various units. Those who require immediate employment or immediate benefits, instead of being "demobbed" from their units, will proceed to Modder Bee or Holfontein, where cases in respect of employment and special benefits are handled. All African pension applicants are sent to Holfontein. Applicants with over 40% disablement are required to remain at the depot on strength pending pension decision. Those whose disability does not exceed 40% may, if they so elect, obtain their discharge before receiving the decision regarding their pension. This means, of course, that they no longer receive pay and allowances.

While the European and Coloured Dispersal Depot Committees, under which all dispersal depots operate, are chiefly composed of ex-volunteers and discharged officers who have been previously attached to the units, it is understood that in regard to Africans it has not been possible to find civilians prepared to give all their time to the work. Consequently the Modder Bee Dispersal Depot Committee is an official committee composed of officers who are acquainted with the languages and legitimate requirements of their men.

The Dispersal Depot operates a number of departments. The volunteer is re-kitted at his pre-dispersal station. On arrival at the Modder Bee dispersal depot, the Information Officer explains the benefits which are available. Thereafter the volunteers are divided into their different categories, in accordance with the choice they make regarding their future plans. The overwhelming majority - apparently despite all previous information and an additional lecture by the officer in charge of the section dealing with the men who 'desire employment after a rest' - elect to go home for a rest and then look for work. This category is then discharged after various forms giving pre-enlistment occupation, details of dependants, record of service, etc., are completed. A form giving salient facts appertaining to the ex-volunteer is forwarded to his local D.S.D.C., and the ex-volunteer is given a docket containing the name and address of his local D.S.D.C. or Native Commissioner, as may be appropriate, and instructed that he should apply for employment or any financial assistance required within 6 months after discharge.

Those requiring immediate employment are dealt with in a different section and retained on strength until employment is found. The same provisions apply to Africans as to Europeans: if a "suitable offer" of employment is refused, the volunteer is placed on reduced rates of pay for 4 months or until a second

- offer -

offer of employment is made and refused, whichever is the sooner. (See Handbook for Native volunteers to be discharged). If the first or second employment is lost within 6 months through no fault of the volunteer, he is entitled to be assisted to find other employment or rendered assistance on a reduced scale of pay up to a maximum period of four months. (Europeans under similar circumstances may be taken back on military strength on full pay and allowances'.)

If the ex-volunteer requires financial assistance, the Dispersal Depot Committee has authority to grant up to £20 in the form of actual equipment or tools required. Until recently this procedure applied to applicants for agricultural equipment. Recently, however, authority to deal with such applications was withdrawn from the Dispersal Depot Committee, which now has to forward them to the local D.S.D.C. The new procedure is not satisfactory. It always involves considerable delays: in some cases, beyond the planting season. It may, and in some cases does, involve unsympathetic treatment. The Discharged Soldiers Demobilisation Committees are made up of civilians and, particularly in outlying rural districts from which the bulk of Native recruits are drawn, there is no guarantee that the claims of ex-volunteers will be sympathetically considered. This may also on occasion be so in the case of Native Commissioners who, where there is no D.S.D.C., are expected to undertake its functions. Furthermore, even where the Native Commissioner is sympathetic, not infrequently the volume of this work added to his already numerous tasks is so great that, without additional assistance, he cannot undertake it. Such additional assistance has not been provided. The fact that the Dispersal Depot Committee can no longer deal with applications in respect of agriculturalists particularly affects disabled ex-volunteers who cannot, in case of delays or other hindrances, leave the country and compete in the open labour market.

Any applications in excess of £20 (i.e. up to the maximum of £100 grant and £500 loan) or for retraining or educational grants, must be referred to the local Discharged Soldiers Demobilisation Committee for investigation and decision. In all cases the volunteer has the right to remain in the Dispersal Depot on strength until a decision has been made. But - soldiers being now very understandably above all anxious to terminate military life - it appears that this course is not followed.

In over three hundred centres throughout the Union are Discharged Soldiers and Demobilisation Committees, known as the D.S.D.C.'s. These deal with the securing of employment, recording and consideration of claims for financial assistance and making of recommendations to the central Executive Committee; the recommending of Sheltered Employment or specialised training, and the affording of assistance and advice to ex-volunteers.

Each D.S.D.C. has been informed of the necessity for the formation of sub-Committees to deal with African ex-volunteers. It has been suggested to each Committee dealing with Africans that, if possible, the following bodies should be represented on such sub-Committees:

1. The local office of the Native Affairs Department, or Department of Justice.
2. The Governor-General's National War Fund.
3. Local authorities.
4. Representatives of non-official bodies (European or mixed) interested in Native Welfare (e.g. Rotary, S.A. Institute of Race Relations, Y.M.C.A., etc.)
5. Representatives of Native bodies, such as the Natives' Representative Council, Local Councils, Reserve Boards, Native Ex-Servicemen's Organisations, Native Advisory Boards, etc.
6. Other non-official European members (e.g. parliamentary representatives for Africans, missionaries, farmers, etc.)

Chairmen of Native sub-committees may also co-opt members of the Native community to serve on these sub-committees in an advisory capacity. Where there is no D.S.D.C., the Native Commissioner is invested with its functions.

EMPLOYMENT.

The Minister of Demobilisation, in his statement to Parliament on the 28th April, 1944, declared that "suitable employment" would be provided soldiers on their discharge. This term "suitable employment" was not defined, but it is understood that the view of the Government is that it means the same or similar work to that previously done by the ex-volunteer previous to his enlistment. This view is reinforced by the terms of the Soldiers and War Workers Employment Act, 1944.

On the other hand, it is understood that representations have been made by an adhoc committee advising the Government on African demobilisation to the effect that every effort be made to find employment for Native ex-volunteers more in keeping with the duties performed and the standard of living enjoyed by them whilst members of the Union Defence Force.

There are, however, no indications that this interpretation has been accepted. It appears that 're-instatement' of volunteers is regarded as securing the same or similar employment as prior to enlistment. It has, for example, been found impossible to secure employment 'in keeping with the duties performed' for the large numbers of African transport drivers, who are fully trained and anxious to secure employment as drivers.

In Johannesburg an Employment Bureau has been set up by the Department of Demobilisation to deal with employment of Native ex-volunteers. Up to the end of August, 1945, this Bureau, composed of an officer, a European sergeant, and an African sergeant, dealt with 2487 applications for employment. Employment was found for 2468, leaving only 19 awaiting such allocation. The occupations secured for applicants were as follows :

Building Industry	124	Government Service	698
Commerce	318	Hotels	25
Domestic Service	148	Motor Industry	136
Engineering	245	Municipal	177
Factory	299	Night Watchmen	37
Gold Mines	53	S.A.Press	11
Gardening	61	Boot Repairing	22
Hospitals	94	Diamond Mines	5
		Miscellaneous	15

It is planned to establish such bureaux at a number of the larger urban centres.

It is understood that increasing difficulty is being experienced in obtaining the requisite co-operation of commerce and industry, who are little disposed to consider the claims of African ex-volunteers.

There may be considerable difficulty experienced in finding employment for the large numbers of ex-volunteers from the rural areas. Fully two-thirds of the Africans joining up were from the rural areas. It is evident from the parliamentary debate on the Natives (Urban Areas) Consolidation Bill that the Government intends to make an effort to restrict the flow of rural Africans to the towns, in fact results of that effort are already apparent. The application of this policy, however, to African ex-volunteers would greatly complicate the obtaining of suitable employment. For in the rural areas, outside the farms, there is no considerable field of employment. It will be some time before the Native

Trust Reclamation Scheme, National Road Construction Work, or Irrigation Development, will be able to absorb any appreciable number, nor are the wages contemplated under these schemes likely to attract African ex-volunteers.

It is suggested for recommendation that the Department of Demobilisation arrange that on the recommendation of D.S.D.C.'s, or at the discretion of Native Commissioners, facilities be afforded to African ex-volunteers to proceed to the urban areas (perhaps excluding the Cape Town area, where there is the necessity for providing for employment of Coloured ex-volunteers).

A survey of openings in various industries that may be filled by ex-volunteers has been conducted by the Department of Demobilisation. This has had to depend on the voluntary co-operation of employers, and the results are not to be regarded as final. Sufficient indication has been given, however, by employers to warrant optimism with respect to sufficient openings being available in industries for a large number of non-European ex-volunteers.

LAND SETTLEMENT.

While it is stated that plans have been made to enable African ex-volunteers to settle on the land, no facilities have as yet been made available. The Native Affairs Department is apparently held up in the finalisation of these plans by the lack of appropriate personnel, such as surveyors, etc.

TRAINING.

Plans for the setting up of schools or other facilities for the training of volunteers for civilian life have been delayed due to the lack of exact information as to the number desiring to obtain such training. It is certain that the first desire of the discharged soldier is to return to his home for a long rest period. It is only after he has been at home for a time, and has discussed his future with his relatives, that he is in position to make definite plans for his future. He will then approach his local D.S.D.C. and make his requirements known.

It is probable that a few ex-volunteers will ask for assistance to complete their education, or to continue with preparation to enable them to follow types of work which they have engaged in in the army. Four ex-volunteers have asked for assistance to help them meet their expenses at the Jan H. Hofmeyr School of Social Work. It is understood that the Technical Colleges have undertaken to provide facilities for special courses, if required, and that one or more of the military camps would be available for additional training in such vocations as motor driving, medical orderlies, cooks, etc. Training in the building trades is envisaged in the provisions of the Housing Bill presented to Parliament by the Minister of Demobilisation. A start has been made on the Native Trust Reclamation Scheme at Hamaan's Kraal, where the first of a number of Native Settlements is being erected and a number of African builders are being trained for work on extensions of the scheme to other centres.

SHELTERED EMPLOYMENT : For partially disabled ex-volunteers.

The following tentative plans have been made :-

- (1) The National Board for Sheltered Employment has circularised various social agencies and other bodies asking for co-operation in the setting up
 - (a) of workshops in urban areas for physically disabled and neurotics, and

- (b) of community centres in rural areas for tuberculotics and epileptics. The Board is prepared to subsidise approved undertakings up to 100% capital as well as current expenditure.
- (2) A Committee of representatives of various organisations has been created in Johannesburg by the ex-Servicemen's Industries, to investigate and undertake the setting up of workshops for Africans. Progress has been held up because it has so far been impossible to find suitable premises.
 - (3) It is hoped that the Rand Epileptic Employment Association will extend its work to include African ex-volunteers.
 - (4) It is understood that the National Board for Sheltered Employment has plans already in hand for a Tuberculosis centre.
 - (5) The provision made at Ezenzeleni at Roodepoort and at the Constance Cawston Blind Institution at Durban, both of which are capable of expansion, should meet the needs of African ex-volunteers with impaired vision.
 - (6) The settlement now established at Roodepoort by the National Council for the Deaf and Dumb can be expanded to meet probable needs.
 - (7) Institutional care will be provided for the Mentally Afflicted. It is understood that representations are being made for the provision of grants to dependants of such ex-volunteers adequate to their needs.
 - (8) A section of the Elandsdoorn Farm Settlement, located some 100 miles north-east of Pretoria, is being reserved for "physically totally unfit Native soldiers". Whether additional settlements in rural areas in other parts of the country will be required is not known as yet.

These settlements, according to Circular No.1, 1945, of the Department of Social Welfare, were designed for 'old Natives who are totally detribalised, physically totally unfit detribalised Natives, and physically totally unfit ex-volunteers'. Recently this ruling was waived and applications of disabled ex-volunteers, irrespective of the degree of disablement, are considered. In January, 1945, provisionally there was accommodation for 60 single men and 10 families. All persons receive free rations and lodging, plus a cash allowance of 10/- per month. 2/6 per month is paid for each child under 14 years of age, not exceeding 4 children per family.

The very existence of these plans indicates that the realization of the needs of African disabled ex-volunteers is growing. But these plans, until they are realized, do not meet the numerous existing cases of hardship. Special Demobilisation Readjustment officers have been appointed to deal with disabled soldiers, but despite manifest anxiety to make satisfactory arrangements for disabled African ex-volunteers, the absence of these facilities really handicaps their activities.

Partly delay has been caused by lack of information regarding the number for whom provision must be made. The Governor-General's National War Fund is at present paying grants to 400 disabled African ex-volunteers, a number of whom would certainly require sheltered employment. It is probable that provision will have to be made for a number of the 130 Non-European ex-volunteers suffering from various nervous disabilities at the Military Hospital at Potchefstroom. Many who have already been discharged on medical grounds will report back to Dispersal Depots and to D.S.D.C.'s seeking sheltered employment. It does not exist at present and its speedy establishment is a clamant necessity.

PROVISION FOR DISABLED EX-VOLUNTEERS.

Since Demobilisation has taken over the Dispersal Depots, there has been a very perceptible improvement in the provisions made for Native disabled ex-volunteers.

Owing to the reluctance of African soldiers to put in claims for pensions (due to their fear that they will be detained in the Dispersal Depot) an order has been made ruling that every pensionable claim must be put forward. Those with disabilities not exceeding 40%, provided they have enough resources to maintain them, are permitted to go home. Others must await the pension decision. Straightforward pension cases are now being more expeditiously dealt with and take 6 - 7 weeks to be decided. Where evidence has to be collected, the decision may not be made for 6 months. European soldiers are permitted, in such cases, to go home and remain on strength until the result of the pension application is known. Africans have to stay in camp. It is strongly recommended that Africans should be treated in the same way as Europeans. There appears to be no reason why all cases awaiting pension decision should not be allowed to proceed home and remain on strength. The allotment would be remitted to the dependants in any case. This would merely mean including pay whilst giving the man the privilege of being at home.

The Pensions Department has the right to award a supplementary pension equal to 100% of the pension, provided it can be established that the pension is not equal to the pre-enlistment earnings or that the ex-volunteer cannot reasonably come out on the amount of the pension.

Since Demobilisation has taken over, disabled volunteers, whose pension claim has been rejected, may be discharged, in cases where the disease is not progressive, provided a continuing grant has been obtained from the Governor-General's National War Fund or other adequate arrangements have been made by Demobilisation. (These grants depend on pre-enlistment earnings).

It must be noted that very frequently, due to negligence in the unit, form D.D.101 was not completed when an injury occurred. This means that there is no evidence that the injury was caused whilst on duty, and in such cases the pension claim is invariably rejected. (This applies to all racial groups).

In general, it appears that disabled African soldiers are today being handled with consideration. But this improvement only occurred recently, and many African ex-volunteers discharged up to the second half of 1944 have not been dealt with in this manner. A task that should be undertaken is a review and follow up of all African ex-volunteers discharged on medical grounds prior to this date.

Very disquieting reports have been received to the effect that D.S.D.C's and Native Commissioners refuse to consider any application for assistance unless made within 6 months of discharge. If this practice is indeed being followed, it defeats the very intent of the D.S.D.C's and will certainly penalise the earlier African ex-volunteers to an even greater extent than the already heavy penalties they incurred through being discharged before an efficient discharge procedure had been evolved.

The failure to provide cost-of-living allowances for pensioners is causing Africans - as also other racial groups - great hardship.

CIVILIAN CLOTHING AND CASH ALLOWANCES :

	Discharged with Benefits		Discharged without Benefits	
	Cash	Clothing	Cash	Clothing
Europeans	£5	£25	£5	£15
Cape Coloured	£3	£15	£3	£9
Native military Corps	£6	Suit x	£4	nil.

* It is provided that "volunteers engaged in certain types of employment, such as teachers and clerks, are eligible to apply for supplementary clothing under the Financial Assistance Scheme up to £8. (This amount is included in the £20 immediate assistance available).

While the protests made to the Directorate of Demobilisation - against Circular 137 of March 29th, 1945, which laid down a cash grant of £2 for African ex-volunteers, brought about revision to the present scale of £6, the position in regard to civilian clothing is by no means satisfactory. The 'suit' provided on discharge is a khaki suit differing from uniform only to the extent that it is cut on civilian pattern. Of so little value is this 'suit' that representations have been made requesting a £2 cash grant in place of the suit.

On previous occasions (e.g. grants, loans) it was accepted that Africans should benefit in the proportion of 2/5 of the European rate. Clearly in regard to certain discharge benefits this principle has not been applied. Coloureds obtain £18, i.e. 3/5 of the European £30. Africans, even assessing the clothing given (which is less than its cost) at £2, obtain £8, while on the 2/5 scale they would be entitled to £12. Thus even on this argument, which omits any reference to real equity, to the fact that Africans were as subject to loss of life and limb as any other racial group and that the African's need is certainly no less than that of other racial groups, the provision at present made is inequitable.

The same objections must be raised regarding the scale of gratuities payable to ex-volunteers discharged with benefits.

- Europeans - 30/- for every month of service after 90 days.
- Coloureds - 10/- do.
(the 3/5 scale has not been adhered to).
- Africans - 5/- for every month of service after 90 days.

DISCHARGES WITHOUT BENEFITS.

In reply to questions put by Adv.D.B.Molteno, M.P., in the House of Assembly, the Minister of Defence stated on 22/2/45 that 29,021 Natives had been discharged since September 1939; that 13,327 had been discharged without benefits; that soldiers discharged without benefits were entitled to have their cases reviewed; that 3,253 Native cases had been reviewed, and the original decision in 1816 Native cases had been reversed. The reviewing of these cases (i.e. discharged prior to 1st August, 1944) is being conducted by Committees composed of ex-volunteers appointed by the Director General of Demobilisation.

Of the total 13,327 cases referred to above, 5,916 were "Services no longer required", a large number of which were subsequently regarded as honourable discharges and therefore did not require reviewing. 3,584 were "In the interest of the Service" discharges, authority for the review of which has now been granted. Of the first 100 of these cases the reviewing of which has now been completed, 45 were with benefits and 55 without benefits. Up to the end of August 1945 a total of 3977 cases had been reviewed, of which 2236 (56%) were reversed to

discharges with benefits. It is understood that the number of Africans now being discharged without benefits is negligible. The total number of discharges to date from Modder Bee Dispersal Depot is 15,841, of which 577 were dishonourable. (This is of course no indication of the overall proportion of discharges without benefits, as such discharges are usually effected direct from units).

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

It is gratifying to be able to record the great improvements in the handling of African discharges at the Dispersal Depot at Modder Bee and to pay tribute to the spirit which quite clearly animates the officers and men who are in charge of the depot.

Yet the following analysis of the categories of the discharges made from the depot from May to August, 1945, causes misgivings :

	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>
Have pre-enlistment occupation	7	30	24	19
Placed in employment	18	59	120	197
Desire Employment after rest	77	317	1886	2343
Own resources - do not require assistance	17	23	77	21
Discharge without benefits	27	4	3	-
Refused Employment War Measure 28/45	1	2	2	-
Assisted with grants	72	12	-	-
Referred D.S.D.C.	21	29	-	-
	<hr/>			
<u>TOTAL</u>	240	476	2112	2580
	<hr/>			

These figures show that out of a total of 5,408 African volunteers discharged during this period, 4623, which is 85%, chose to seek employment after a rest. This means that, despite the facilities that are now available and the efforts that undoubtedly are made to have volunteers avail themselves of the facilities, they are not doing so. In other words, the problem is largely being shelved. It is difficult, in the absence of reports from the country, more particularly from African ex-volunteers themselves, and also before the expiration of the 6 months 'rest period' following upon the expedited rate of demobilisation, to assess what the actual effects and results have been. There are, however, even at this stage, disquieting reports current concerning the failure of D.S.D.C's in rural districts and of Native Commissioners to fulfil their obligations towards African ex-volunteers. Apparently too, African ex-volunteers are increasingly finding conditions such that before one month has expired they are looking for work.

Further information, in the nature of reports from D.S.D.C's and Native Commissioners regarding the number of African applicants, the number of applications granted and employment opportunities found, is essential. It should be noted that if an ex-volunteer seeking employment is found unemployable in the D.S.D.C's area, it can recommend his return to the Dispersal Depot where he will be put back on strength.

We understand that it is rare for such recommendations to be made.

It has been suggested that African ex-volunteers wanting employment within 6 months after discharge should be sent back to the depot, and the wisdom and practicability of such a recommendation should be explored in the light of further information.

That Native Commissioners in districts where recruiting has been heavy - particularly without the full support of a committee - cannot cope with the work involved in meeting adequately the needs of African ex-volunteers, is beyond doubt. It is therefore suggested that every effort be made to ensure that the Directorate of Demobilisation make available the necessary personnel to assist Native Commissioners in this task.

Despite the efforts of the Governor-General's National War Fund to make the facilities it offers known to African soldiers and ex-volunteers, it is clear that even at this stage Africans are largely unaware of the assistance many of them could obtain. Recently, the Governor-General's National War Fund has authorised the automatic gift of one blanket from the Fund to every African volunteer at discharge. Although reference is made to the Fund in the Handbook given to Native volunteers to be discharged, it is suggested that all African volunteers be fully informed by their officers or, if available, by Information officers, of the operations of the Fund and of the nature not only of Emergency Assistance but also of continuing grants.

J. D. R. J.
E. H.

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Abx. 450908a
Rutini - Gerald
8/9/45 LAC 36/45

INVITATION TO ATTEND
EMERGENCY CONFERENCE ON PROBLEMS OF REHABILITATION
OF AFRICAN EX-VOLUNTEERS.

Your organisation is invited to send two delegates to an emergency one day conference which will open at 9.30 a.m. on Saturday September 8th, in the Darragh Hall (next to St. Mary's Cathedral) Johannesburg.

CONVENORS:

The Conference is being convened jointly by

- The S.A. Legion of the B.E.S.L.
- The Springbok Legion
- // The Campaign for Right and Justice //

SECRETARIAT:

Campaign for Right and Justice. All communications regarding the conference should be addressed to:-

The Organising Secretary.
P.O. Box 1713,
JOHANNESBURG.

PURPOSE OF CONFERENCE:

The rapid demobilisation of African ex-volunteers coupled with the special difficulties pertaining to their rehabilitation has raised problems of the first magnitude. The Demobilisation Committees and the Government/Departments are doing their best to deal with the situation but they have been faced with difficulties which have made their task immeasurably harder. At the same time, many African ex-volunteers are suffering hardships which should not be necessary.

It is the belief of the Convenors of the Conference that a frank discussion between the representatives of all interested parties will assist materially in overcoming many of the difficulties which are now being faced, both by the authorities and by ex-servicemen.

PLAN OF CONFERENCE:

There will be three sessions.

1ST. SESSION. 9.30 a.m. to 10.45 a.m.

The nature of the problem from the ex-serviceman's point of view will be stated by a representative of the Springbok Legion.

2ND. SESSION. 11.a.m. to 12.45 p.m.

Representatives of the Demobilisation Directorate, the Native Affairs Department and the Department of Labour have been invited to describe what is being done to rehabilitate African ex-volunteers, and what plans they have for the immediate future. Addresses will also be delivered by Col. Sayers, Chairman of the Non-European Demobilisation Committee of Johannesburg, and by Major Cook, Chairman of the Advisory Committee to the Director of Demobilisation, in respect of Native Ex-Volunteers.

3RD. SESSION. 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Time will be given for discussion and suggestions from the floor. This will be followed by a general summing up by the Director of the S.A. Institute of Race Relations who will also submit draft findings for adoption by conference.

CHAIRMAN OF CONFERENCE:

Lt.Col. L. Marquard, Director of Army Education Services, will preside at all sessions.

GENERAL:

- A. IT IS REGRETTED THAT SUCH SHORT NOTICE OF THE CONFERENCE HAS BEEN GIVEN, BUT THE INCREASING URGENCY OF THE PROBLEM HAS LEFT THE CONVENORS NO ALTERNATIVE.
- B. YOUR ORGANISATION IS URGED TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THE ATTACHED FORM WITH THE MINIMUM DELAY.

P. C. Box 1713.
Johannesburg.

To the Convenors:-

CONFERENCE ON PROBLEMS OF REHABILITATION OF
AFRICAN EX-SERVICEMEN.

- - - -

MY ORGANISATION

ADDRESS.

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Will be represented at the above Conference by:-

(a) NAME (in block letters).

ADDRESS.

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(b) NAME (in block letters).

ADDRESS.

.

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Signed on behalf of my Organisation.

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Capacity:

ABX. 4509086

Mqotcolweni,

S. W. Sengweni,

Via Isolo.

8-9-45

Secretary Book-keeper,

A. N. Congress

Johannesburg.

Dear Sir,

Kindly send me
the African charter entitled
"African's' claims"

I herewith enclose a
sum of 1/3.

I shall await an
immediate delivery.

yours faithfully,
Nicholas J. Mj'ali

Noted 17/9/45

ATX. 450910a



P.S. 6153/45

Prime Minister's Office,

PRETORIA

10th September, 1945

Anti-pass Campaign

The Chairman,
National Anti-Pass Council,
104 End Street,
JOHANNESBURG

Dear Sir,

General Smuts has asked me to acknowledge for him the receipt of your letter of the 4th September in which you write of a proposal that a deputation should see him to present a petition on the subject of Pass Laws. I am to say that the Secretary of the Anti-Pass Committee was advised on the 5th inst. that amongst the questions dealt with at the recent meeting of the Natives' Representative Council was the pass question and other relative matters. They were reminded that this Council officially represents the native people in the Union and that the representations made by them were at present under consideration. It was accordingly suggested that the interview proposed should be deferred.

Yours faithfully,

Henry W. Cooper
PRIVATE SECRETARY

ABX. 4509106

T. 27 POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.—POSKANTOOR-TELEGRAAFDIENS.

G.P.S. 7253-1943-4-180,000-200. S.

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Received. Ontvang.	At Om	TO AAN + TUMA 104 ENDST DOORNFONTEIN JHBURG				Sent. — Gesein.	
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+ SEND 1000 MEMBERSHIP CARDS X PROCEEDING WITH PRESIDENT TO TROMPSBURG
AND REDDERSBURG ORGANISING X 700 CARDS SOLD OUT MONEY FOLLOWS + ELEAS

7101 - 7500 = 400
3801 - 3900 = 100

+ 104 ONETHOUSAND SEVENHUNDRED +

id if an error is disclosed. This form should accompany any inquiry.
D
Twyfelagtige woorde kan herhaal word. As 'n fout aan die ag gebring word, sal geen koste vir die herhaling gevorder word nie. Hierdie vorm moet alle navrae vergeesel.

A.N.C.

ABX. 458910c

ABX/ARM.

10th September, 1945.

Messrs Kumalo & Nkosi,
No. 7467, Orlando West,
JOHANNESBURG.

Gentlemen,

You promised to hand over the money held back at the last Branch Meeting for handing back to Branch Officials at Orlando, but you are silent now on the matter.

Gentlemen, let us keep our promises to show good faith.

Yours for the advancement of
Africans,

PRESIDENT-GENERAL.

A.N.C.

ABX: 450910d

C O P Y.

PHONE 34- 1233

No. 32, DIAGONAL STREET,
JOHANNESBURG.

10th September 1945.

Dear Member,

You are requested to attend the Members meeting of the Orlando Branch A.N.C. taking place at the Leake Hall on Sunday the 16th September, 1945 at 9.30 a.m.

Your presence is particularly required as you will note the items in the AGENDA: -

1. Discussion led by the Chairman - to compromise -Party - Election - Dispute.
2. Organisation.
3. Provincial General Meeting.
4. General.

Yours in the National Struggle,
P.B. Moloi, Secretary, Orlando
Branch A.N.C.

11/9/45

A meeting of the Bantu Welfare Trust will be held on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1945, at 9.30 A.M., in the office of LT. COL. J. DONALDSON, D.S.O., A.B.C. Chambers, Simmonds Street, Johannesburg.

A G E N D A

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting of the Trust held on 14th August, 1945.
2. Matters arising from the Minutes :-
 - a. "Donaldson" Orlando Community Centre;
 - b. Donald Fraser Hospital : Loan for Electric Plant;
 - c. African Welfare Needs : Mr. Rheinalt Jones to recommend;
 - d. Krugersdorp Non-European Child Welfare Society;
 - e. Donaldson Post-Graduate Medical Scholarship & Loan Fund;
 - f. Welfare of African Soldiers : Mr. Rheinalt Jones to report;
 - g. Application by A.B. Spondo;
 - h. Legal Aid Bureau: Johannesburg;
 - i. Transkeian Native Reference Library.
3. General.

QW/DAR:
3/9/45.

A. N. C.

ABX. 4509 116

104, CHANCELLOR HOUSE,
25, FOX STREET,
JOHANNESBURG.

11th September 1945.

Dr. A. B. Xuma,
The President General,
African National Congress,
104, End Street,
Doornfontein.
JOHANNESBURG.

Dear Sir,

RE: ORLANDO BRANCH , - ELECTIONS.

Further to the above matter, and to the subsequent discussion ~~our~~ Messrs. L. P. Kumalo and L. J. Nkosi had with you on Monday the 27th August, 1945 at your offices, while we have not as yet heard anything from you as promised, we have now been struck another surprise in the nature of a meeting a circular of which is enclosed herewith.

Without ~~discussing~~ the legality of the position of the said meeting, we can assure you at this stage that it is our intention to oppose the procedure tooth and nail, moreso as we feel there can be no compromise except declaring the said election invalid.

Yours ~~faithfully,~~

L. J. NKOSI.

ENCL:

A.N.C.

ABX. 458911c

ABX/ARM.

11th September 1945.

Mr. E. P. Moretsele,
Provincial Treasurer,
African National Congress (Tvl),
P. O. Box 9207,
JOHANNESBURG.

Dear Provincial Treasurer,

You must have received our account for the tickets. I would like to have settlement for the 400 tickets given earlier at 10d each amounting to £16.13.4d. The last 200 tickets could be paid for at the end of September with the ~~the~~ September month report.

I shall be grateful to you for the amount as we want money for printing as well as regular reports for our records.

Thanking you for your co-operation at all times for the advancement of the People's cause.

Yours faithfully,

PRESIDENT-GENERAL.

400

200

580

ABX. 450911d

ABX/ARM.

11th September, 5.

The Secretary,
O.F. State African National Congress,
2038, Gabashane Street,
Batj Location,
BLOEMFONTEIN.

Dear Provincial Secretary,

I wish to thank you for your telegraph of yesterday's date. I must congratulate you for what you are doing. You might qualify for big things if you do not stand still.

I thank you for the information of settlement for the 700 tickets. I would also like to remind you that on Sunday the 5th August, 1945, when we had the Conference on the Sunday afternoon you promised settlement through Mr. Seeku for the 300 tickets sent Mr. Molatedi less £1.13, 4d which was an amount overpaid on the 200 tickets previously sent.

I shall also like to have a report on the 400 African Claims..

When is your football match? You have kept me in suspense as I do not want to make any appointment that would conflict with it.

Wishing you every success in your work and congratulating you again.

Yours sincerely,

PRESIDENT GENERAL

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XUMA, A.B., Papers

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