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HB 65

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Ex 2.4.0.7

SOCIETY FOR RACE AND FRIENDSHIP WITH THE SOVIE UNION

During the police raids of September 1952 in connection with an alleged investigation of "sedition" and other serious crimes against the State some 48 organisations - some in South Africa, some abroad, and some non-existent - were listed in the warrants produced by the police. Among this list was included the name of this Society, and the secretary of the society also suffered a search-raid by the special branch of the police.

The Society protests most vigorously against these completely unwarranted procedures and the implications thereof. [The aims of the S. A. Society for P. E. F., as it has repeatedly been made public, in statements and at public meetings, as well in the Constitution of the Society,] are concerned exclusively with the promotion of improved relationships, in the fields of culture, trade, and other related fields, between the people of South Africa and the USSR.

We feel convinced that, particularly since the meeting of the heads of the "Big Four" powers at Geneva, these aims will be fully shared by every thinking citizen, as the only sensible and possible alternative to a frightful world conflict.

We shall not be intimidated by such actions, but shall continue our efforts to build bridges of friendship and understanding, in the cause of world peace. We call on all men and women of goodwill to assist us in these efforts. And in the name of the deepest interests of the people of South Africa, we call upon the Union Government to end its campaign of petty persecution against our Society, and instead to play its own part in what is today widely recognized as the most important task facing all statesmen - the relaxation of international tension and the building up of peaceful co-existence and mutual confidence between "East" and "West".

Bewysstuk No. 1
Gekry by: H. B. van der Merwe
Deur: H. B. van der Merwe
Te. 5.9. 1952
Datum: 18.9.52
Verwysings No. 1

Recently our society together with a large number of other organisations ^{were subjected to} a police raid, allegedly investigating for sedition and treason. (We give below the statement issued by us protesting against these despicable charges, but which the local daily press did not consider ^{worth} publishing.

^{an extract from} There follows our statement of protest to the local daily press, which did not see fit to publish our statement.

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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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