

ANC Office Appeal

The 'ANC Office Appeal Fund' was launched in a letter to *The Times* (2 April 1982) by Archbishop Trevor Huddleston CR, President of the Anti-Apartheid Movement; Michael Foot MP, leader of the Labour Party; David Steel MP, leader of the Liberal Party; and Jack Jones CH.

Sir, We are sure your readers will have been shocked by the bomb attack against the offices of the African National Congress in London on Sunday, March 14. This is the first occasion when the violence which is endemic in South Africa has reached beyond the borders of Africa into the heart of our capital city. Miraculously, there was no loss of life or serious injury, but the bomb caused extensive damage and has seriously disrupted the work of the ANC.

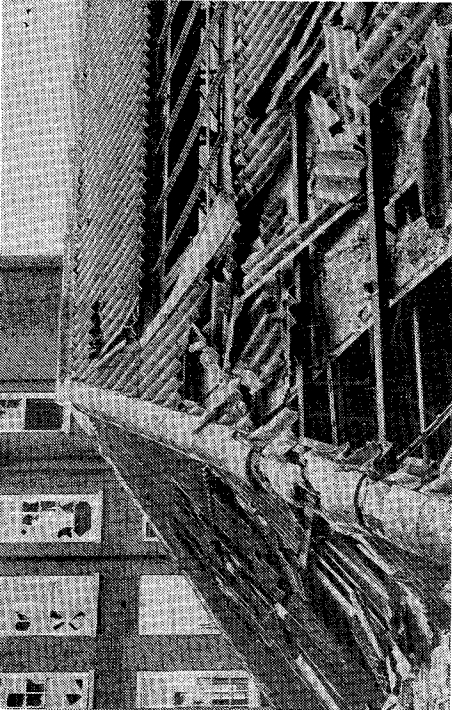
During the same weekend, in London, one of the most representative gatherings ever to have taken place in Britain on the issue met to discuss the challenge of Southern Africa – The Time to Choose. We write, as participants in this conference, to appeal, through your columns, for financial support for the ANC to enable it speedily to rebuild and re-equip its offices. It is vital that the voice of those struggling against apartheid and injustice in South Africa should still be heard in Britain and elsewhere in the West. Please send contributions to ANC Office Appeal Fund, at the address below.

It was at 9am on Sunday 14 March that a 10lb bomb exploded against the back wall of the ANC offices in London, causing extensive damage and badly disrupting their work in Britain. This bomb attack against the ANC office is part of an escalating pattern of acts of terrorism against opponents of apartheid.

The bombing inflicted severe and extensive damage to the ANC office. Most of the rear part of the building was destroyed and what remained had subsequently to be demolished. The rest of the office was seriously damaged. The bombing particularly damaged the ANC publications facilities. A printing machine, photocopier, filing cabinets, a collater, and other office equipment were either completely destroyed or seriously damaged.

Also on 14 March thousands of opponents of apartheid gathered in London for a national demonstration in support of the Southern African freedom struggle. This Appeal has been launched to provide an opportunity for people in Britain to contribute.

- Please send donations to 'ANC Office Appeal Fund'
- Please write for more copies of this leaflet so that it can be more widely distributed
- Please take up a collection or try and organise a fund-raising event.



Photographs taken at the ANC office on 14 March 1982

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