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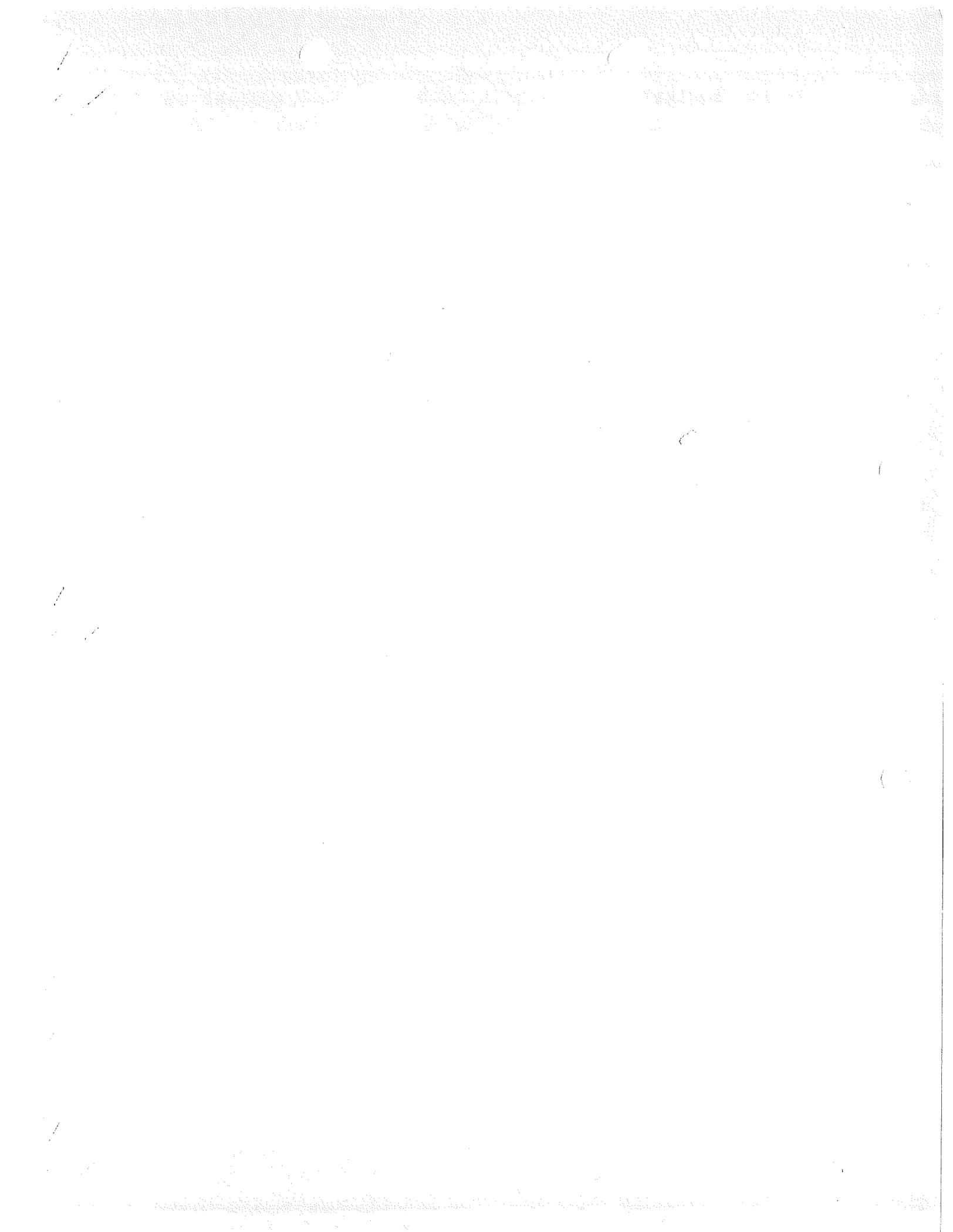
UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION
TELEVISION AND FILM SECTION

"THEY SPEAK OUT"

A United Nations Film on Apartheid

MAY 1971

71-43248



TEASER

JOAN LESTER
British Member of
Parliament

"...If you are against Apartheid, there are no 'buts' and you cannot behave as someone who is not against Apartheid...."

SEAN MACERIDE
International Jurist

"...The entire legal system, the entire social structure is based on the concept of discrimination...."

THAMI MHLAMBISO
Liberation Movement
Leader-in-Exile

"...South Africa is strong, rich in mineral resources, material resources, and the world is interested in this and nothing more...."

WILSON CONCO
South African Physician-
in-Exile

"...That support which they give, buying from South Africa, sending capital to South Africa is to keep Apartheid going...."

NEIL WATES
British Industrialist

"...It is a terrible thing, you know, the businessmen dig their heads in the sand...."

JOHN COLLINS
Anglican Church Leader

"...Southern Africa, with white supremacy still existing there is perhaps the most vital area in the world in which the racial struggle might well end in the breakdown of peace...."

THEY SPEAK OUT

A United Nations Film on Apartheid

NARRATOR:

"Apartheid" is a word in Afrikaans, the Dutch language of South Africa. It means "separateness" - or "segregation". It is the word used to describe the rigid separation of races that is a national policy of the South African Government.

For twenty years and more the Apartheid policy has been condemned by the United Nations, and it has been denounced by leaders of governments, private citizens, and church officials of every creed.

Those who speak out against Apartheid today include exiled South Africans who know at first hand how

.../ .

Apartheid works; and a group of civic and religious leaders, including some from the Western community with which South Africa claims kinship.

Each year on March 21, the international community marks the struggle against race discrimination. It is also known as "Sharpeville Day" for in 1960 ...

BISHOP REEVES;
Former Archbishop of
Johannesburg

Shots of Sharpeville
shooting

"It happened on the early afternoon of March the 21st, when a crowd of about 5,000 people were gathered outside the police station at Sharpeville. Some had come there to protest the pass laws, and some of them were there simply from idle curiosity. Suddenly there was a shot and then shrill cries; following this, there was a volley of shots, and when it ended, most people had turned to run away. The shooting only lasted 40 seconds, but during that time 705 rounds had been fired, 69 people had been killed, including eight women and ten children; and 180 people had been seriously injured, including 31 women and 19 children."

SEAN MACBRIDE
International Jurist

"There are thousands of people imprisoned and we have two problems there: the problem first of all of trying to get them released, and I must say we haven't been ^{very} successful in South Africa, and, remember, many of these are people who have been imprisoned without any trial, who are detained for indefinite periods under different laws that have been enacted, and the second problem is trying to insure better treatment for the prisoners, for persons who are detained."

M.B. YENGWA
South African lawyer-in-
Exile

"I was placed under 90 days detention. This form of detention is such that you are not allowed to be visited by your legal adviser or your family.

.../ .

"You are kept in absolute solitary confinement. You are not even allowed to read a book. For days upon days, you are only confined within the 4 walls, looking at the ceiling and down, and making your own mental life impossible. It was the cruelest mental torture I ever underwent, and it was, of course, intended to make me confess my complicity with the African National Congress."

DENNIS BRUTUS
South African Writer-
in-Exile

"Yes, I was shot by the Secret police and kept in various prisons. I ended on Robin Island where I was assaulted, very badly beaten in company with other political prisoners, and then came out to Britain in exile after that."

DR. J. VERKUYL
Netherlands Theologian

"Apartheid is in reality a racial caste system in which one group, the white group, and a certain white group in South Africa, tries to monopolize the power and there should be sharing of the power, and that is the reason why the whole world should be concerned about apartheid."

OLOF PALME
Prime Minister of Sweden

"We are fundamentally opposed to the idea of apartheid; we think it is morally wrong. It's in flagrant contradiction towards the basic principle of human equality and human justice."

WILSON CONCO

"You see, apartheid is all over; it has got its tentacles all over; not only medicine, lawyers are being threatened now not to establish their offices, for instance, in ~~Durban~~ ^{Durban}; to move their offices right out into the areas where Africans live . . . where it would be very difficult for them to communicate with the courts which are in town. Teachers are affected by Bantu education,

"where their schools are also to be herded into apartheid regions. Well, all professions, as long as you're non-white, an African, you are affected by apartheid."

JULIUS NYERERE
President of the United
Republic of Tanzania

"Discrimination against people because of their race is particularly wrong because they can't do anything about it. People can change their religion. People can change their politics. People can change their countries, but people cannot change their color. And this is a particularly vicious kind of discrimination."

M.B. YENGWA

"Many talented people, many qualified people, are extremely frustrated because of their color. Most of them think of leaving the country, and most of them have left the country. They leave the country because they find that they cannot practise their profession in the best way possible, and they find that even if they try to practise the profession as best as they can, they are frustrated in many ways, because of their skin color."

DENNIS BRUTUS

"It was illegal for me both to write poetry and to publish poetry, and, of course, I was not alone. Many others suffered from this direct kind of repression. But, in addition, because of the fear of the secret police, the repression of the legislation, the entire cultural development of the people, white and non-white, is stultified; so it seems to me the kind of psychological damage being done to people in South Africa through apartheid is perhaps the most profound and the most saddening of all the aspects of apartheid."

.../ .

M.B. YENGWA

"The bench considers you an inferior person, even though you are professionally qualified. So that he usually addresses you as a Bantu lawyer instead of addressing you as a lawyer. The very word 'Bantu' signifies inferiority. "

DR. WILSON CONCO

"For instance, I remember when I was a student what stuck in my mind that I'll always fight apartheid: when a white body appeared for post mortem we had to walk out, all non-European students, Indian, colored and so on, and leave white students only, and that was the practice of apartheid coming in, and when you complete medicine, you were not allowed to go for better training in the teaching hospitals, and do housemanships and so on because you were going to give instructions to white sisters, so we had to be thrown out to private practice, and that's why, partly, I never did any extra studies. I just went into the reserves where I established my practice and started there. These reserves, so called reservations, is where Africans are harried, over-crowded, eroded and you get malnutrition, poverty, disease, and you get all sorts of vices in the reserves caused because these people are not there of their choice. It is by law they must be enclosed there, and you find a lot of malnutrition and a lot of disease. "

GEORGE LINDSAY
New York Bar Association

"The attempt to create separate enclaves out of a situation that doesn't lend itself to that has continually forced the breakup of families and does it on a day by day basis. It's sort of like a Procrustean bed, the facts don't fit the theory so they keep chopping off the head and the legs and one way and another to make it fit. "

BISHOP REEVES

"Obviously, one would wish for a peaceful change in South Africa. And until there is an explosion, I think it's the duty of all of us to try and resolve this thing without a violent conflict."

JOHN COLLINS

"I think that anything that individuals can do by way of boycotting South African goods is at least an individual gesture, but I think the nations themselves should not trade with South Africa if they could possibly avoid it. I have sympathy with some of the African states that trade with South Africa because they have got their own economic problems but I think it's a sad thought that some of the even African nations are driven in that position."

GEORGE LINDSAY

"I do not think an economic boycott is at the moment feasible. Maybe some time in the future it would be and I think that probably more feasible now are spot actions of one sort and another. For example, any special privileges should be removed. No question that the United States should terminate its sugar quota right now. But a general economic boycott, just looking at what the rest of the world apart from the United States is doing in the way of trade, is probably not feasible at the moment."

JOAN LESTER

"If one continues to have one's interests tied up economically with South Africa, then this in a sense becomes a contradiction because where your economic interests are then clearly this is in the end what you have to defend, and I think there is a growing consciousness and concern about this interest."

ABDUL MINTY
British Anti-Apartheid
Movement

"We in Britain are now finding that, increasingly, we have to pay attention to the role of corporations in the West which have a stake in South Africa and, as a result, have become the strongest lobbying groups in Western countries. It is not sufficient merely to pressurize governments; we have to pressurize companies as well."

GEORGE LINDSAY

"You've got two choices: either stay and try to actually change things, or get out. But you only have one order that you can try these things, if you get out you can't go back. If you try this, you've got the second alternative if it doesn't work."

NEIL WATES

"We were asked in January to license our system of industrialized buildings which we use extensively in this country and in the United States and Toronto and we just wrote back and said: 'You can't be true to the principles that we have in the business of developing people to limit to their capability if there is a sort of cut off point.' If we have got to say, 'Take you, and you're black, and therefore certain jobs are reserved, and you can't be turning that camera over there, you can't do anything else but that. You know, we can't run a business, and we wouldn't want to run a business along those lines, so we refused. And these people then said: 'You can't understand that, you don't know what you're talking about, you're 7,000 miles away, you can't take a decision.' So they said: 'Would you care to come and see us?' So I went and I saw them, and that was quite true, there were such job reservations that you can't run a color blind business that we would try to do. The other thing is that when I got there I saw really the whole system depended on the

"deliberate demoralization of servants, it isn't just domestic servants, the black servant race. In very, very subtle ways. And you know, one couldn't as a man live in that country. So, for those two reasons, we said we wouldn't... We had taken the decision 7000 miles away; having gone to see it for ourselves, we still wouldn't have anything to do with it. "

DR. J. VERKUYL

"Among the whites in South Africa, I was very much impressed and disappointed about the unawareness of the whole situation. Unaware. And I think that is the first point, to make the public aware about the real situation, and also here in the Western world, people are so full of welfare and all what is related to that, they don't like to be aware, and they are irritated when people stress the reality of things, and I think that is the first thing that should be done, to make people aware in the whole world."

NEIL WATES

I came back in June, I sent a copy of my notes round to a lot of chairmen of the companies I know, and they were very favorably impressed, you know, reacted very favorably. There has been a hell of a row broken out, you know, gone all over the newspapers. You know, 'unfortunate chairmen of the companies that do business are hounded, made to say why they do', and we expected, as a company, that we would be pilloried over this. We are prepared to face up to that. Personally, I've had more moving correspondence over this from people in all walks of life in this country, than I've ever seen in my life. It really is unbelievable. I had chairmen of

.../ .

"companies saying, 'I cannot commit my company, of course, but I myself agree.' Junior directors saying 'Thank God you said that, because I'm no longer a lone voice on my board.' People going into industry saying, 'Thank God, at last industries seem to have some goal beyond their maximizing of profits', and housewives all over say, 'gosh, hurray!' I just think, somehow, one has touched a spring in England which I didn't know was there, just by accident, which has enabled hundreds of people to say that you are articulating something I didn't realize I articulated myself, and it's been very helpful. "

DR. WILSON CONCO

"For goodness sakes, they must stop supporting that regime economically. The big powers, for instance, must not be talking nowadays of protecting the Cape route and all that Cape route to the East. They must talk in terms of the African population, the non-European people there, their rights. The only thing to insure that that sea route is left for everybody to use, freely, is by giving the rights to the people of Southern Africa... not by arming South Africa, not by sending capital to South Africa to invest, because these investments and the profits made out of the gold mines, out of the economy gains in South Africa are made through the blood and sweat of our people, and when people say South African goods are cheap, they mean my brothers are sweating and dying and having tears. In that regime, in a police state, those tears are cheap, and human blood, human tears are not cheap at all. "

SEAN MACBRIDE

"The longer this situation lasts, the more difficult it will be to get the Africans to accept a white population in South Africa."

JULIUS NYERERE

"It's true we're trying to build a non-racial state, but precisely because South Africa is following a racial policy, this makes life difficult for us in Tanzania, and really this makes life difficult for any nation in the world."

DENNIS BRUTUS

"If we could achieve an international withdrawal of support for apartheid, at the same time that the internal pressures develop in South Africa and in the rest of the continent, the combination of these factors, I am sure, could lead to the overthrow of apartheid and the creation of a new democratic society."

BISHOP REEVES

"Knowing the leaders fairly well in South Africa, I must say that I'm bound to recognize there are a lot of very tough individuals and it's only when the whole structure of South African society, and particularly the economy, is threatened, that I think change will come."

M.B. YENGWA

"I do hope, sincerely hope, that reason and good will and good sense will prevail and that the white people, especially, will see that it is in their own interest to help the black people of South Africa to gain their freedom, which is their inherent right."

NEIL WATES

"Yes, maybe eventually, I really don't know, and I think the liberals- I've got immense admiration for the people standing up and being counted in that country, but they are very few and far

"between, and they get put under most terrible personal pressures ... smeared as communists, social lives destroyed, their lives are threatened, and it takes immense courage to stand up against that, and I really don't think there are enough of them, enough people there with that amount of guts. Maybe there aren't in the world; I don't know."

OLAV PALME

"In the short run, we have met many disappointments, but, in the long run, I'm an optimist, simply because I'm optimistic about the future of the human race."

ABDUL MINTY

"The big question is: With what amount of suffering will that freedom come? And movements like ours are concerned to reduce that suffering."

GEORGE LINDSAY

"The fact that there has been increasing rebellion among the youth, the fact that the South Africans are driven now to fight against the churches, and you have a succession of canonical refugees; these pressures will build up counter pressures within South Africa which, I would hope, along with outside carrots and sticks might be helpful."

JOAN LESTER

"Well, I don't really hold the view that, in the end, South Africa will, of its own accord, be more humane about this because she will require more educated labor and so forth; I don't see it happening like this, although I know that many liberals have argued this for many years. I think one of the decisive factors will be the condemnation of most enlightened nations. I think this will be a help. I hope also, and I think what could be a help would be the breaking

" down of economic ties with South Africa where this is possible, and a bigger commitment to the developing African world as sort of a compensation for what is taking place in South Africa. I think these two things are much more likely to play a part, and this is where I would like to see Britain being a part as well."

THAMI MHIAMBISO

"What we have to do really, we have to give our full support to the United Nations which has been trying for so long to harmonize the national interests of the member states."

JOAN LESTER

"I am optimistic and I'm particularly optimistic about young people because I think it's for them to do something about this, and I think they are beginning to do something about this."

DR. J. VERKUYL

"I am not optimistic, not at all, because I am full of fear about that stubbornness. I followed the election meetings in South Africa, also of the national apartheid and I must say that I was very very disappointed about the total sentiment in these meetings, but I think there is always time to hope and to pray and to work."

DR. WILSON CONCO

"I'm very optimistic. I will go back to South Africa. I want to; I'll fight my way back to South Africa by all the means that I could have at my disposal."

(ROLL UP TITLES)

THEY SPEAK OUT

DENNIS BRUTUS.....South African Writer-
in-Exile

JOHN COLLINS.....Anglican Church leader

WILSON CONCO.....South African Physician-
in-Exile

JOAN LESTER.....British Member of
Parliament

GEORGE LINDSAY.....New York Bar Associa-
tion

SEAN MACBRIDE.....International Jurist

THAMI MHLAMBISO.....African National
Congress

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JULIUS NYERERE.....President of the United
Republic of Tanzania

OLOF PALME.....Prime Minister of
Sweden

AMBROSE REEVES.....Former Archbishop of
Johannesburg

J. VERKUYL.....Netherlands Theologian

NEIL WATES.....British Industrialist

M.B. YENGWA.....South African Lawyer-
in-Exile

Directed by.....RAMAKANTHA SARMA

Photographed by.....PIERRE DESBONNET

Edited by.....PAUL KLEE

Narrated by.....JAMES KING

A UNITED NATIONS FILM

MEMORANDUM

TO : [Illegible]

FROM : [Illegible]

SUBJECT : [Illegible]

[The following text is extremely faint and illegible due to the quality of the scan. It appears to be a multi-paragraph memorandum.]