

On April 6th 1979 Solomon Mahlangu, a combatant in Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), the armed wing of the African National Congress, was executed by the South African regime.

As the tenth anniversary of this atrocity approaches, recent developments in Southern Africa bring into sharp focus the Pretoria regime's disregard for international law and the rule of law. The state of emergency continues, thousands are in detention, over 30 organisations have been banned in the last year, and increasing numbers of people are awaiting the apartheid executioner.

The international community has acknowledged the right of the people of South Africa and Namibia to self-determination; their right to determine freely their political destiny and their economic, social and cultural development. The South African regime has brutally resisted all such demands. The struggle for these basic rights is being spearheaded by the ANC of South Africa and SWAPO of Namibia. To deny the ANC or SWAPO their authority or to equate their legitimate struggle with "terrorism" is to violate this right to self-determination. The United Nations has repeatedly declared that the people of South Africa have the right to pursue their freedom

by all means at their disposal, including armed struggle.

In the course of prosecuting the armed struggle some combatants of MK have been captured, tried as criminals and even sentenced to death. International law demands that captured combatants of the liberation movements be granted prisoner-of-war status; their execution is a war crime under Nuremberg Principles.

Despite the prospect of peace in the Southern African region with the withdrawal of the defeated apartheid troops from Angola and the impending freedom for Namibia, we must not become complacent. The Pretoria regime has embarked on military raids in many of the front line states, aimed at their political and economic destabilisation. This has included support for surrogate vigilante forces such as UNITA in Angola and the MNR in Mozambique.

The Public Meeting on 7th April 1989 and the Seminar on 8th April 1989 will examine these issues and address the question of how the legal community in Britain can most effectively support the fight for freedom in Southern Africa.

VICTORY TO ANC AND SWAPO!

STOP APARTHEID EXECUTIONS!

SANCTIONS NOW!

- I would like to join Lawyers Against Apartheid. Please send me details of the group.
- I would like to join Lawyers Against Apartheid. I enclose my annual membership fee of £5 (waged)/£1 (unwaged), £2 (students, pupils, articled clerks), £15 (local organisations), £25 (national organisations).
- I would like to attend the Seminar on 8th April, 1989.

Name

Address

Telephone No Date

Please return to: Lawyers Against Apartheid, PO Box 353, London WC1R 5NB.