

activities and slanderous propaganda against the Party line and its leadership, and this they cannot refute.

E.T. Mofutsanyana

RGASPI, 495/64/149/93-7.

Original in English.

Typed. Copy.

Stamped: 17.NOV.1935 - 0467

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**Letter from E. Roux to ECCI,
12 November 1935**

Johannesburg
12 November 1935

To the ECCI

Dear Comrades,

The PB has just shown me a cable from you saying that you are awaiting my presence in connection with the inner Party dispute. I was also aware of your earlier cable with a similar request. Unfortunately I am not in a position to leave at present, nor could I have left at any time since last June when Comrade Ngedlane and I were summoned to appear at the Durban court on a charge of 'lese majeste'.¹ The case is still proceeding. It has at present reached the stage of an application for leave to appeal to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court at Bloemfontein. Our Party legal adviser says that it is very unlikely that the case will be concluded for some months, possibly not until February, 1936, or even later. In the event of the appeal failing, which is probable, I shall then have to serve a sentence of four months' imprisonment. There is no alternative fine.

This being so it is clear that the dispute will have to be settled without my personal attendance at headquarters. Since, presumably, you are already in touch with Comrade Warren, I suggest that you take up the matter with him. He is fully aware of the earlier events leading up to the present crisis. You will by this time have received the statement of 20 September signed by me and others. This will provide you and Comrade Warren with further information and in addition I am sending a further statement^x (enclosed) of the events since the expulsions were carried out. I ask you to place this document too at the

1. Lèse majesté - a legal term indicating disrespect to an authority. The concrete reason for this case against Roux could not be established. Earlier Roux was twice sentenced for incitement to violence.

disposal of Comrade Warren. I also enclose a statement^x of my views on the Party slogan, the Independent Native Republic.

Yours fraternally,
E.R. Roux
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<sup>x</sup>I am sending these statements by the following mail.  
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RGASPI, 495/64/145/49.

Original in English.

Typed. Copy.

Stamped: 14.DEC.1935 - 6928

(in German)

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**Statement by E. Roux to ECCI,
November 1935 (Extracts)**

THE SLOGAN: AN INDEPENDENT NATIVE REPUBLIC
AN EXPLANATION OF WHAT IT MEANS, IN RELATION TO THE
DISPUTE IN THE PARTY

Johannesburg
November 1935

It has been stated that the present dispute in the Communist Party is primarily due to a difference of opinion on the interpretation of the slogan, 'An Independent Native Republic'. This is not strictly true, because the dispute has developed mainly out of the persistent left sectarian mistakes of the present leadership. If some of us who find ourselves in opposition to the sectarian leadership have different views about the slogan, this does not account for the mistakes of the present leadership and the fact that our Party, after four years of 'bolshevisation', has less than 20 Native members and less than 50 whites, of whom the majority are not industrial workers.

Nevertheless the question of the slogan is very important and it is necessary that this question should be thoroughly discussed and the points at issue made plain to the members of the Party and to all those workers and other sympathisers, who, though not members of the Party, are interested in the present dispute.