

These accusations are, some of them, really monstrous, such that I really do not know what to say about them – for instance, one that I have bought whisky for the native comrades, I made them drunk, I instructed them to fight at the meeting, I myself was not present at the meeting, etc. Well, it is incorrect, it is entirely incorrect, it is absolutely monstrous. I want to say to Comrade Kotane that there are political disagreements, political differences between us and we are here, not at a Party meeting in Johannesburg, we are in front of a C. I. Commission, so let us for a change discuss these disagreements in a political way as to clear them up politically, and let us not bring here the methods in which we fought these political disagreements in the Party in Johannesburg [...]

If we see the various periods of the work of the Party we will see a very characteristic feature is the inability of the Party to estimate correctly and correct its mistakes. In the fight against Buntingism the Party swung to the 'left'. In the fight against the left mistakes of the leadership of Walton<sup>5</sup> and myself the Party swung to the right. In the fight against the right mistakes committed by Comrade Kotane, the Party again swung to the 'left'. Not having a clear ideological line, not realising and not understanding correctly its tasks, the line of the Party was swinging like a pendulum from one extreme to the other extreme. In the fight against the present 'left' sectarian line of the Party we have to take note of this very peculiar experience of the South African Party and to guard against it.

RGASPI, 495/60/224/93–4, 104, 109–1109. For the full text of the document see: RGASPI, 495/60/224/93–126.

Original in English.

Typed.

## 55

### **Circular Letter – Invitation to a Meeting of Anglo-American Secretariat, 27 December 1935**

1106/35

27th of December 1935

To Comrade Randolph  
Anglo-American Sector

Comintern

Dear Comrade Randolph,

On December 31, 1935 at 4:30 P.M. there will be a closed meeting of the Secretariat at which the following questions appear on the Agenda:

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5. Walton.

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| 1) The Work of the RA <sup>1</sup> of South Africa            | - Com. Rio       |
| 2) Draft letter on the reorganisation of the work in England. | - Com. Patterson |
| 2) Draft letter on the reorganisation of the work in USA.     | - Com. Jones     |

Please make arrangements to attend this meeting. We are enclosing written materials.

Comradely yours  
H. Stassova

Enclosure: 1

RGASPI, 495/64/151/23.

Original in English.

Typed.

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**Report of M. Kotane to Anglo-American Secretariat,  
31 December 1935**

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE RED AID SOUTH AFRICA. TO POINT I.  
ON THE AGENDA CLOSED MEETING OF THE SECRETARIAT ECIRA<sup>1</sup>  
DECEMBER 31, 1935, 4:30 P.M.

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In order to understand the 'Ikaka' as it is, it is essential to give a brief account of its activities since its inception.

The Ikaka was formed in February, 1931. It was formed primarily as a defense and relief organisation. At that time it succeeded in obtaining the affiliation of one organisation – the 'Independent African National Congress' and a very few individual members. Rightly or wrongly we soon lost our affiliated members, and the Ikaka became a sect composed of a few Communists.

In 1932–33 Comrades were charged with the task of recruiting members for Ikaka and plans were made to make it a mass organisation. Figures were given to be fulfilled within a specified time and they were fulfilled in so far as they were but figures. The real people – human beings we did not get into the

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**Doc. 55**

1. 'RA' – Red Aid, i.e. IRA's South African branch, Ikaka la Basebenzi.

**Doc. 56**

1. Executive Committee of the International Red Aid.