

Sobukwe

can't

leave

(2)

R.D.M. JUNE 11, 1964

Political Correspondent

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — Robert Sobukwe, former leader of the banned Pan African Congress, is to have indefinite detention on Robben Island extended for another year. And the Minister of Justice, Mr. Vorster, has refused to grant him an exit permit to leave the country.

Mr. Vorster, replying to questions by Sir De Villiers Graaff, said during the debate on the justice vote that he had decided "in the interests of South Africa" not to grant Sobukwe an exit permit.

He added that legislative provision would be made before the end of the session to extend Sobukwe's detention for another year.

NOT HOTEL

Mrs. Helen Suzman (P.P., Houghton): How long are you going to keep him locked up? Mr. Vorster did not answer this question, but said that a Red Cross official from Geneva had visited Robben Island recently and had seen Sobukwe. The official had reported to him that Mr. Sobukwe's accommodation was similar to that of a high ranking-officer in time of war.

Mr. Vorster added that Sobukwe had a radio and received daily newspapers.

Mrs. Suzman: He's still in prison.

Mr. Vorster: Did the Member think he was in an hotel?

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