

Sobukwe illness

story untrue

R.D.M.

26-9-75

By PATRICK LAURENCE
A REPORT to the United Nations that the banned Mr Robert Sobukwe had suffered a heart attack was yesterday dismissed as "malicious" by a close friend.

The report was made to the Special Committee on Apartheid by the Pan-Africanist Congress representative, Mr David Sibeko, after the committee had agreed that South African diplomats at the UN be replaced by "liberation movement" delegates.

Mr Sobukwe, founding president of the outlawed Pan-Africanist Congress, may not be quoted because the banning order in force against him. But a close friend, Mr Achmed

Laher, confirmed that he was well.

"I spoke to Robert today and he is 100 per cent well," Mr Laher said. "I told him about the report and he had a laugh. It is just a malicious report."

Mrs Veronica Sobukwe, wife of the banned African nationalist, left South Africa for the United States on Tuesday to visit her two eldest children who are studying in Atlanta, Georgia.

GOVAN MBEKI

The UN committee also heard that Robben Island prisoner, Govan Mbeki, was seriously ill and decided to ask the International Red Cross to investigate the matter.

A member of the banned African National Congress, Mr Mbeki, 64, is serving a life sentence. There have been persistent reports over the past few months that he is very ill.

But the Chief Liaison Officer of the Prisons Department, Colonel G. L. Steytler, said yesterday: "It is absolute nonsense to claim that he is or was seriously ill."

PUBLISHER:

Publisher:- **Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand**

Location:- **Johannesburg**

©2010

LEGAL NOTICES:

Copyright Notice: All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Disclaimer and Terms of Use: Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of paper documents and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

DOCUMENT DETAILS:

Document ID:- **A2618-Cp2-13-15**

Document Title:- **Rand Daily Mail: Sobukwe illness story untrue**

Author:- **Rand Daily Mail**

Document Date:- **26 September 1975**