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PRESS STATEMENT ON DETENTION OF ELLIOT SHABANGU AND AMOS MASONDO

ELLIOT SHABANGU - (VICE - PRESIDENT OF UDF TRANSVAAL - EXECUTIVE MEMBER OF GAWU)

AMOS MASONDO - (CHIEF ORGANISER OF GAWU AND A MEMBER OF COMMITTEE OF TEN EX ROBBEN ISLANDER)

THE DETENTION OF MEN WHO REPRESENT THE DEMOCRATIC ASPIRATION OF THE BROAD MASSES OF OUR PEOPLE BEARS TESTIMONY TO THE STATE OF PANIC AND UNCERTAINTY IN WHICH THIS GOVERNMENT IS.

THE DETENTION OF THESE TRADE UNION LEADERS AND KEY MEMBERS OF THE UDF COMES IN THE LIGHT OF GROWING STRENGTH OF THE UDF AND THE INCREASING WORKER PARTICIPATION IN THE CAMPAIGNS OF THE FRONT.

ELLIOT SHABANGU A LEADING MEMBER OF THE UDF AND FOUNDER MEMBER OF THE GENERAL & ALLIED WORKERS UNION IS A STALWARD OF THE FREEDOM STRUGGLE AND A CHAMPION OF THE WORKING CLASS. HE HAS BEEN ON THE FOREFRONT OF RESISTANCE SINCE THE 1950'S.

DESPITE HARRASMENT AND INTIMIDATION THE UDF IN ITS SHORT LIFESPAN, ALREADY HAS A PROUD HISTORY OF RESISTANCE. MEN LIKE SHABANGU AND MASONDO WERE INSTRUMENTAL TO THE GLORIOUS VICTORY OF THE SOWETO PEOPLE AGAINST THE BLACK LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR.

OUR STRUGGLE CONTINUES WITH COURAGE AND DETERMINATION. WE REMAIN UNDAUNTED IN OUR STRUGGLE AGAINST THE CONSTITUTION ACT. NOTHING WILL STOP OUR CAMPAIGN TO COLLECT 22 MILLION SIGNATURES FROM CONTINUING.

WE DEMAND THE IMMEDIATE, UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ELLIOT SHABANGU AND AMOS MASONDO.

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