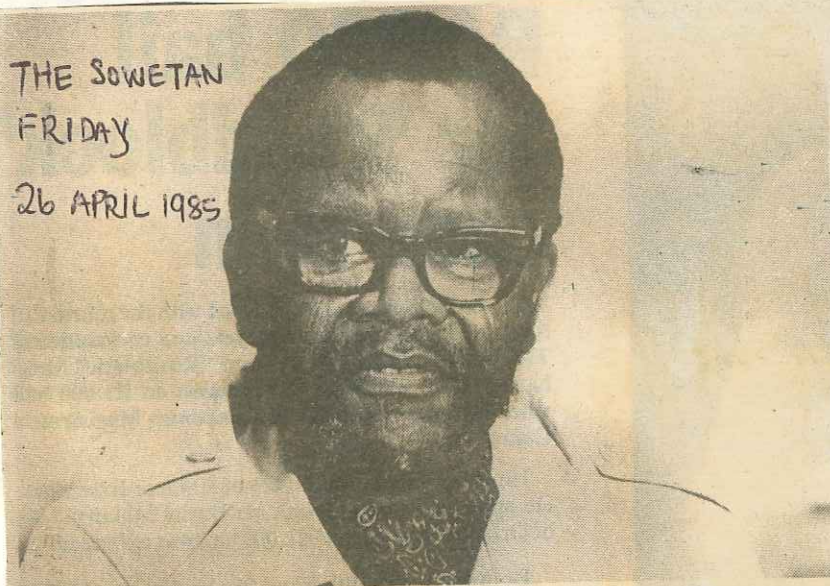


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Mr OLIVER TAMBO, President of the African National Congress.

Tambo is ready to talk to SA

WASHINGTON — The Washington Post reported yesterday that Mr Oliver Tambo, head of the African National Congress, said yesterday he was prepared to meet leaders of the South African Government to discuss negotiating a new constitution to extend democracy to blacks.

Mr Tambo omitted mention of several preconditions he had previously stipulated would be required before his organisation would be willing to bargain with white officials, the newspaper said.

The ANC leader is in the United States to drum up support for his cause and visited Washington this week.

Mr Tambo said South Africans who opposed the Government appreciated deeply the anti-apartheid demonstrations throughout the US and the Congressional moves to impose econ-

omic sanctions on South Africa.

"His remarks appeared designed to portray his organisation as moderate and flexible and to increase pressure on Congress to adopt the strongest possible set of sanctions," Post reporter Glenn Frankel wrote.

Whites would have a significant role to play in a democratic, non-racial South Africa and that they would not be run out of the country.

"He also indicated his group might be willing to discuss and negotiate specific mechanisms to protect white rights, the newspaper said.

Mr Tambo said that the first four years of the Reagan Administration were a "most disastrous period" but added that the rise of the anti-apartheid movement in the US had given rise to great hopes.

Mr Tambo predicted

that violence in South Africa would continue to escalate until the SA Government became convinced that apartheid was unworkable.