

THE TREASON TRIALS DEFENCE FUND

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You will all know that 156 persons are on trial for treason in Johannesburg. Their trial has already lasted many months, but this is only a preparatory examination. The final trial will probably not open till 1958.

In the meantime these 156 persons are suffering great hardship. They are unable to follow their trades and professions, and many have seen their practices waste away. Their dependants would have been in a desperate situation had it not been for the Defence Fund.


These persons are on a capital charge. In other words, they are on trial for their lives. That is why it is important that they should have an able defence.

We may not all agree with the views held by some of these persons, but all of us agree that it is important that a just verdict should be returned. One of the best ways to secure a just verdict is to have an able defence. That is why we ask you to support the Fund.

You are not in any way upholding treason by supporting this Fund. You are upholding justice, and you are showing compassion for the families of those concerned. What is more, the Fund has been granted official registration under the Welfare Organisations Act. There is nothing illegal in supporting it. You are exercising your rights as a South African.

And you are doing something even more. You are affirming a fundamental democratic doctrine, that a person is to be presumed innocent until he is found guilty.

Please give your support to the Fund. Send your contributions to Box 1370 Durban, or Box 831 Pietermaritzburg, or Box 2864 Johannesburg, or to Mr. K. Holland, 61 Regency Court, 198 Berea Road, Durban.



For the Sponsors of the Fund.

Issued by Alan Paton, Lynton Road, Kloof.