

## ICS 34 ISAAC HORVITCH PAPERS.

Member and Chairman of the South African Communist Party. Prosecuted in the Treason Trials, 1959-64. Isaac Horvitch was an architect and active member and later Chairman of the South African Communist Party (SACP).

In 1946 he was charged with sedition, arising from the 1946 miner's strike. After the passing of the Suppression of Communism Act he became Chairman of the Forum Club, a multi-racial political discussion club. He was arrested on 5 December 1956 on charges of treason arising from his involvement in the Congress of the People and the adoption of the Freedom Charter. The preparatory examination and trial lasted from December 1956 until March 1961, when all the accused were found not guilty and discharged. After being acquitted and after the Sharpeville massacre in 1960, Horvitch escaped to Botswana and from there made his way to exile in London.

**Researchers should order documents using the reference number and then the individual document number, eg. ICS 34 3.2**

### **1. Material Concerning the *Treason Trials*.**

- 1.1. South Africa. Indictment Regina vs Adams and others. High treason etc. Pretoria, G.P., n.d. 3 vols.
- 1.2. Lists of the accused and the charges against them. [2 copies duplicated, 4 copies typescript]
- 1.3. Schedules 'C' and 'D'. [Duplicated]
- 1.4. Schedule 'D' detailing the charges against Horvitch.
- 1.5. Reply to the request for further and better particulars to the main charge and the further particulars thereto.
- 1.6. Typescript extracts from *The theory and methodology of communism* by Joseph M. Pochenski.
- 1.7. Appellants' heads of argument on 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> questions of law reserved.
- 1.8. Opening address by the Crown.
- 1.9. Testimony by A.H. Murray.
- 1.10. Judgement, 29 Mar 1961. [2 copies duplicated].
- 1.11. Reasons for judgement by J. Bekker.
- 1.12. Reasons for judgement by J. Rumpff.
- 1.13. 5 pages of miscellaneous typescript and ms.

### **2. Typescript drafts for issues of *Treason Trial Press Summary* 6 Feb 1959 –10 Mar 1960.**

### **3. Miscellaneous material concerning the Treason Trials**

- 3.1. Advertisement for South African Treason Trial by L. Forman and E.S. Sachs.
- 3.2. Pamphlet appealing for funds issued by Treason trials Defence Fund. 1957. [2 copies].
- 3.3. 20 Feb 1957. Good Hope issue with Archbishop of Cape Town's letter re the trial.
- 3.4. Treason trial Defence Fund. South Africa's treason trial. Afrika, n.d. [Includes 'who's who' of the defendants.]
- 3.5. Catalogue of an auction of paintings ... in aid of the TTDF. 31 Jan 1958.

- 3.6. 30 Apr 1958. Circular letter from A. Livingstone & Co. asking for information in order to prepare the defendants case.
- 3.7. 13 May 1958. Circular to all accused giving details of the procedure.
- 3.8. 21 Jul 1958. Circular to all accused giving details of the indictment.
- 3.9. [Oct ?] 1958. Circular letter re street collection in aid of TTDF.
- 3.10. 7 Nov 1958. Circular letter from TTDF asking for details of hardship owing to arrest.
- 3.11. 18 Feb 1959. Circular letter for TTDF giving notice of general meeting of the Fund on 6 Mar 1959.

#### **4. Personal File.**

- 4.1. Payments received from T.T. Fund.
- 4.2. 2 blank letter forms for use by prisoners.
- 4.3. Stage of work reached by Horvitch in his practice.
- 4.4. Ms notes on other clients.
- 4.5. Invitation for Mr. & Mrs. "Horwitch"(sic) to attend welcome home banquet on 26 Dec 1956 given by South African Indian Congress, Cape Branch.
- 4.6. Menu for above.
- 4.7. Jan 1957. Circular letter from Horvitch to his clients that in his absence other architects will be looking after his practice.
- 4.8. 8 Aug 1957. Letter to receiver of revenue from Horvitch that he is unable to pay income tax for 1955/56 as his practice has been destroyed by his arrest.

#### **5. Publications**

- 5.1. Poster. *Cape Argus*. Italy goes to war.
- 5.2. Advert for *New Age*.
- 5.3. *Freedom* 1(27-28), 15 Dec 1949. Communist Party conference report.
- 5.4. Freedom charter.
- 5.5. A short history of the ANC by James A. Calata. 1957.
- 5.6. *Zuid Afrika*, 35(3), Mar 1958.
- 5.7. South African Congress of Democrats. Memorandum submitted to the Pan African Conference. Dec 1958.
- 5.8. S.A. Congress of Democrats. Vote against a minority republic. [1960?]
- 5.9. Mr. Brighish's permit to visit Sheilla Horvitch in Johannesburg goal. 3 May 1960.
- 5.10. Maak oop die hek – hier kom die Noodregulasies. [Poem written in Johannesburg prison].
- 5.11. Thanks for the memory. [Poem written in Johannesburg prison].
- 5.12. 6 Jul 1960. Circular letter from Anti Apartheid movement and memorandum on political detainees in South Africa
- 5.13. Poster Spark. Special farewell issue. Mar 1963.

**6. Ghana material**

- 6.1. 8 Jun 1960. Pass to National Assembly.
- 6.2. National Assembly order paper, 8 Jun 1960.
- 6.3. Parliamentary debates, 8 Jun 1960.
- 6.4. Notes on Canon Collins' visit to Ghana. June ?
- 6.5. Extract from memorandum submitted to Dr. Nkrumah by Canon Collins. N.d.

**7. Press cuttings on the Treason Trials. 5 folders.**