

TAMBO Oliver Reginald

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PCA/11/2/1-42

1. Tambo was born in Pondoland in 1917. With mission sponsorship he went to St. Peter's Secondary School in Johannesburg. His scholastic career was brilliant. He graduated B.Sc from Fort Hare in 1941, and in 1942 was expelled during a student strike. St. Peter's gave him a post, but he was drawn more and more into politics. In his early thirties he became national vice-president of the militant Youth League of the ANC.

Cartoon: Tambo and others - with their possessions - leaving Fort Hare after expulsion. Police in evidence.

2. In 1949 Tambo was elected to the ANC national executive. He qualified as attorney, and became the partner of Nelson Mandela. In 1955, though banned, he became secretary-general and in 1958 deputy president-general of the ANC. He showed great skill in holding the left and the nationalist wings together.

Cartoon: Mandela, robed perhaps, welcomes Tambo to his office.

3. 1960 was the year of Sharpeville. The ANC leadership believed that the ANC would be banned and sent Tambo out of the country to serve their cause abroad. He headed the ANC-in-exile and became known in many capitals of the world. On Lutuli's death in 1967 he became acting president-general. Greatly respected by many, he is thought by others to have moved too far to the left. What his future holds, no one knows. He is approaching 61.

Cartoon: I suggest Tambo with Kaunda and Nyerere.