

# John Lloyd should not stand!

**LLB was wrong to defend Exeter CLP's choice for PPC. John Laredo, secretary of Pudsey CLP, and David Evans of Wallasey CLP, both ex-ARM members who spent five years in prison, state why.**

**S**INCE THE piece in the April *LLB* defending his selection the NEC has asked John Lloyd to stand

down as Exeter PPC, failing which he will be de-selected. When the NEC endorsed him last year, the extent of its knowledge of Lloyd's involvement in the South African liberation struggle was that he had assisted in acts of sabotage against power pylons as a member of the Armed Resistance Movement (ARM); that he had been detained; that a fellow member John Harris had placed a bomb in the Johannesburg railway station, killing one and injuring others; that Lloyd had given evidence against Harris and Hugh Lewin; that Harris had been hanged and Lewin jailed; that Lloyd had come to England late in 1964. If others, including the people of Exeter, were relying on Lloyd's public statements they almost certainly knew much less. When first chosen as PPC in 1990 he said, "I was arrested and detained without trial for about 120 days. I didn't think I was a revolutionary and I didn't think I could keep quiet after that, so I decided to leave."

In fact his involvement with Harris was much greater than he admitted and his evidence against Harris and Lewin more important than he admitted. In the case of Lewin (a close friend) and two others, Lloyd sent a message that he would not give evidence against them, but then did so. It was his evidence which forced all three to change their pleas to guilty, receiving seven, five and nine year sentences.

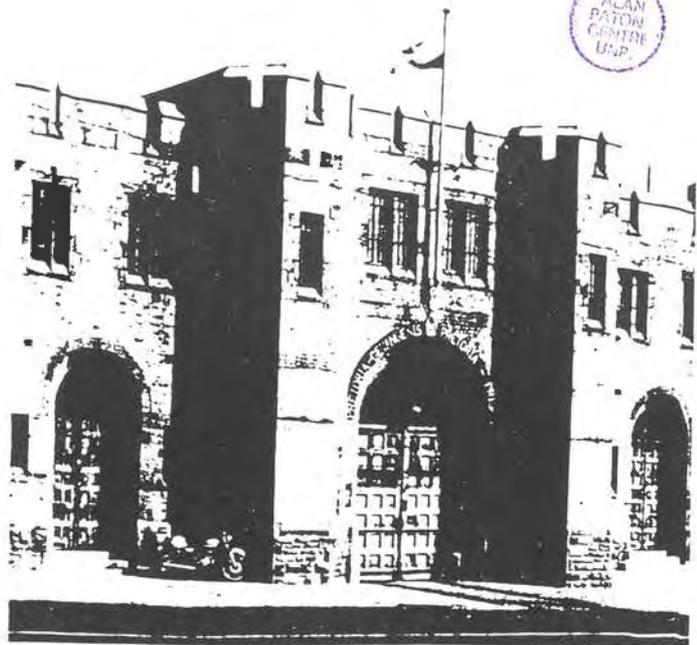
Lloyd's justification for giving evidence against Harris is that the latter broke the ARM code by intending to kill people (even though Harris had made a telephone call warning the police to clear the station concourse, which was ignored). However, the

trial judgement found that Lloyd had discussed with Harris the station bomb, a bomb in an underground car-park and bombs in Pretoria Post Office, concluding that Lloyd was essentially an accomplice of Harris.

Lloyd's initial statement to the police further contradicts his version of events. It gives details of his activities with Lewin and others and mentions a discussion of the three projects with Harris, stating that he (Lloyd) suggested the post office as a target, having rejected the others. It states that in answer to his objection to any scheme that might endanger lives, Harris said, "Innocent people had been killed by bombs during the war and it was a risk that everyone would have to take", a far cry from Lloyd's trial evidence when he stated Harris had said, "If a few lives were taken this would be tactically advisable because it would save so many lives in the future", which Harris stoutly denied and which assisted in obtaining a murder conviction and the death penalty. Despite this Lloyd assured Walworth Road that his evidence had nothing to do with the Harris trial but later claimed that his evidence "played no material part" in Harris' conviction.

In March 1965, safe from further prosecution in England, Lloyd was approached on three occasions by people known to him and asked to retract his 'intent to kill' evidence in attempts to save Harris' life. He refused. He has admitted publicly only to the approach by Jill Chisholm, Hugh Lewin's close friend whom he knew well. Others were made by fellow campaigner Randolph Vigne (who had escaped to London), and Ruth Hayman,

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**The Pretoria Local Prison, where the ARM prisoners (except John Lloyd) were held.**

Harris' solicitor. Harris' wife also cabled an appeal from South Africa, to no avail. In justifying his refusal to agree to Chisholm's request Lloyd said, "I didn't know what her game was. For all I know she could even have been working for the South African Special Branch", something quite inconceivable to anybody who knew her well but typical of the way he has responded to criticism. After first saying he "feels justified in having given evidence" against Harris, Lloyd later said, "If I thought it would have had a chance of influencing the appeal for clemency, I would have done it." But he had been told Harris' legal team was convinced that his retraction could have been decisive and that arrangements had been made to 'splash' it in the world press.

Lloyd again misled when he said that his evidence was not cited once in the Harris appeal, since it could only have been had he offered new evidence. He has claimed that the ANC "cleared" him and that in South Africa there is a "general amnesty". The ANC has recently stated that it did not clear him and that anyone seeking amnesty must apply to the Truth Commission.

Lloyd seems to have started out in England on a damage-limitation exercise, being economical with the truth about his South African activities then trying to justify both these and his subsequent failure to make amends for betraying his comrades. The notion that he is the victim of a Blairite plot is risible and nobody in possession of the full facts should be in any doubt of the correctness of this NEC decision. □

MEMORANDUM ON CHANGES TO INTERNAL SECURITY ACT LISTS  
FOLLOWING PRESIDENT F W DE KLERK'S SPEECH AT THE  
OPENING OF PARLIAMENT ON 2 FEBRUARY 1990

In the course of his speech at the opening of Parliament, President de Klerk announced certain changes to the Internal Security Act 74 of 1982. These were brought into effect in a Government Gazette issued the following day (GG 12287 03/02/90).

The gazetted proclamations and notices remove names of organizations, publications and people from lists issued in terms of the Internal Security Act. Proc R21 and GN R229 relate to 34 named unlawful organizations; Proc R230 withdraws prohibitions from 8 publications banned between 1952 and 1977; and Procs R231 and R232 remove restrictions on quoting 225 people.

Proc R21 GG 12287 of 3 February 1990

Removal of names of unlawful organizations from Schedule 4. There are no longer any names in Schedule 4. Inclusion in Schedule 4 meant that a court of law, for a prosecution in terms of s 54(1) (terrorism and related offences), would presume that the aims of the listed organisations included the use of violence or threat of violence:

1. African National Congress (ANC), including Umkhonto we Sizwe.
2. Pan African Congress (PAC) or Poqo.
3. South African Communist Party also known as Communist Party of South Africa or SACP.

GN R229 GG 12287 of 3 February 1990

Withdrawal of proclamations in terms of s 4(3). These 34 organizations have been removed from the list of Unlawful Organizations:

	<i>Proclamations Withdrawn</i>
Pan Africanist Congress	Proc 119 of 08/04/60
African National Congress	Proc 119 of 08/04/60
South African Congress of Democrats	Proc R218 of 07/09/62
POQO	Proc 91 of 10/05/63
Dance Association	Proc 92 of 10/05/63
Umkonto Weziswe (sic)	Proc 93 of 10/05/63
Spear of the Nation	Proc 94 of 10/05/63
SAA Football League	Proc 183 of 12/07/63
Football League	Proc 184 of 12/07/63
Football Club	Proc 185 of 12/07/63
African Resistance Movement (ARM) [also known as African Freedom Movement (AFM), National Committee for Liberation (NCL), National Liberation Committee (NLC)]	Proc 242 of 25/09/64