

## **SACBC STATEMENT**

**ON**

### **KHOTSO HOUSE BOMB BLAST**

**(31/8/88)**

The Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference was in Plenary Session on August 31, 1988 and wrote:

**To:** Reverend Frank Chikane and members of staff of the South African Council of Churches and all those who work at Khotso House.

With deep sorrow and dismay we heard of the bomb blast at Khotso House.

Our hearts go out in deep sympathy to all those injured in the blast and to the organisations that use Khotso House for their work which is now severely curtailed.

To you Frank, we want to say how much we share the shock and loss that you have sustained. Khotso House is very dear to us for all that it stands for in South Africa and the wonderful people who work there. The damage done by the bombing is a fearful blow, yet with you we see it in the light of the assurance of Jesus, that a special blessedness is associated with those who suffer persecution for the sake of justice.

Only two weeks ago we publicly deplored the spate of bombing that has effected so Many innocent victims in our country, now we sorrow with you and we beg God to touch the mind and heart of those who cannot yet appreciate that stringent and oppressive policies lead inevitably to such disasters.

May the damage be repaired soon so that the Council's work for God goes on uninterrupted.