

Remember...

50th anniversary of the Treason Trial, 3 August 1956

The Freedom Charter was adopted in 1955. The apartheid government arrested 156 people and charged them with treason.

Most of them were leaders of the African National Congress (ANC), the Congress of Democrats, the South African Indian Congress, the Coloured People's Congress, and the South African Congress of Trade Unions. As a group they were known as the Congress Alliance.

Four years later they were all acquitted.

Stamps used on these pages with the permission of the South African Post Office

19 October 1986, 20th Anniversary of the death of Samora Machel

In 1986, the former President of Mozambique, Samora Machel, died in a plane crash in Mbuzini, Mpumalanga. Twenty four passengers died with him. Because the real cause of the crash is still not known or whether it was really an accident, President Thabo Mbeki asked that it should be looked into again. The Minister of Safety and Security said that the investigation into what happened 20 years ago on that day will be re-opened in co-operation with Mozambique.



Miner's Strike, 12 August 1946

Thirty years ago, on 12 August 1946, some 60 000 black mine workers in Johannesburg started a strike for higher wages. The strike was led by

the African Mine Workers Union, whose president, JB Marks, was also a leader in the South African Communist Party. In the week that followed, the police and army used violence to crush the strike.

11 September 1906, Satyagraha centenary

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's Satyagraha – passive resistance campaign.

On 11 September 1906 Mahatma Gandhi started the movement known as Satyagraha in Johannesburg. It promoted non-violence as a way to protest against injustice. On this day, Indians in the then Transvaal province, started a programme of peaceful resistance against the unfair registration and pass laws of the apartheid government.

