



DANIEL JANSE VAN RENSBURG

MEDIA STATEMENT

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TWO SOUTH AFRICAN MEN DETAINED AT BLACK BEACH IN MALABO, BOKO ISLAND, EQUATORIAL GUINEA

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Relatives of Peter Huxton and Frederic Potgieter reached out to me last week, alerting me to the arrest of the two men in Malabo on alleged drug related charges as they completed their month-long work stint aboard the oil rigs where they are employed as engineers.

“My immediate thought was that I hoped that they had not read my book, which describes the horrors of being incarcerated in Black Beach Prison for almost two years. The first few days for these men, who do not speak Spanish, will be the worst; it will be an extremely difficult time. Being incarcerated in Black Beach is like walking around in a living nightmare, where everything you’ve ever feared in your life unfolds before your very eyes and you are powerless to escape from it or stop it.

It has been traumatic for Melanie and me to now vicariously relive the nightmare of my time spent in Black Beach, something that we’ve been working on to put behind us since my return home in 2015, said Daniel Janse van Rensburg in response to the news.

“Knowing how these two families are suffering as we did, is heart breaking”

“As far as I am aware, the South African embassy is liaising with Equatorial Guinea authorities, and I have offered the families emotional support and am praying for the men’s release as soon as possible. I believe that the two men have been moved to a detention centre in Mongomo on the Equatorial Guinea mainland which is where political prisoners are often incarcerated. Attaining their freedom now lies in the hands of the internationally recognised legal team appointed by their employers to handle their case and we will continue to keep them in our prayers and hopeful of a positive outcome.

Daniel Janse van Rensburg
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