

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910792262603321
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Titolo	External mission : the ANC in exile, 1960-1990 // Stephen Ellis
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford, England : , : Oxford University Press, , 2013 ©2013
ISBN	0-19-936529-6 1-306-26008-6 0-19-936541-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (1456 p.)
Disciplina	324.26808309045
Soggetti	Anti-apartheid movements - South Africa - History Government, Resistance to - South Africa - History - 20th century South Africa Politics and government 1948-1994
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Title Page; Copyright page; Contents; Dedication; Acronyms and Abbreviations; Chapter One Call to Arms; Resisting apartheid; Securing a mandate; The formation of Umkhonto we Sizwe; Preparing for war; Rivonia; Chapter Two The External Mission; Taking stock; Kongwa; Security networks; The Rhodesian campaign; The Hani memorandum; Chapter Three The Party Triumphant; Morogoro; The struggle continues; Dissidents; Factionalism; The frontline emerges; Chapter Four New Strategies; The ANC's strategy review; Pretoria's total strategy; Sanctions; Chapter Five The Grinding Stone Security, bureaucracy, ideologyCorruption; Shishita; Mkatashinga; Infiltration; Chapter Six War Among the People; The township risings; Kabwe; The new international context; Operation Vula; The security question; Chapter Seven Homecoming; Towards civil war; Crooks and spooks; Unbanning: the war's climax; Reconciliation of a special type; Chapter Eight Perspectives; Waging war; Interpreting the past; Explanations; Appendix: A Note on Method; Acknowledgements; Notes; Bibliography; Index; Footnote
Sommario/riassunto	Nelson Mandela's release from prison in February 1990 was one of the most memorable moments of recent decades. It came a few days after

the removal of the ban on the African National Congress; founded a century ago and outlawed in 1960, it had transferred its headquarters abroad and opened what it termed an External Mission. For the thirty years following its banning, the ANC had fought relentlessly against the apartheid state. Finally voted into office in 1994, the ANC today regards its armed struggle as the central plank of its legitimacy. External Mission is the first study of the ANC's per

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