



APDUSA VIEWS

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**DON'T
BE FOOLED
BY
DE KLERK**

INTRODUCTION

It has been said that politics is a dirty game. We do not agree. Politics is one of the modern world's very important needs. No country can function properly without politics. There would be chaos and mayhem without the binding and regulatory force of organised politics. This notwithstanding, it often happens that politics does become dirty. Not because there is anything wrong with politics, but because dirty politicians make it so.

In the last issue of APDUSA VIEWS (No. 51), we spotlighted the ANC's Election List which was an invitation to the public to vote for, among others, crooks, human right violators, sellouts and Stalinists, i.e. most of whom should be in jail and not in the government.

In this issue, we deal with the National Party, commonly known as the Nationalists or NATS.

On the 2nd March 1994, on the television feature AGENDA, we viewed a political debate in Upington, a town in the Northern Cape. The spokesman for the NATS got a torrid time from members of the public. We often heard the word "skelm" being hurled against him. "Skelm", as we all know, means a rogue and a scoundrel. This is how ordinary people view the NATS. Others call them oppressors, liars, murderers, hypocrites etc., etc.

THE OLD NATS

These days, we hear a great deal about the NATS having reformed themselves from fascist murderers to loving democrats - all in a matter of a few years.

Lest we forget :

1. The NATS ruled the African, Indian and "Coloured" people for 40 years by the use of the police, prison, jackboot, sjambok and the gun.

2. The Group Areas Act destroyed settled communities; drove people from their ancestral homes and made the whole of South Africa into one huge White Group Area, with the White having the choicest land and those not classified White getting the worst bits.
3. The vicious Pass Laws, which made persons foreigners in the land of their birth, were responsible for flinging millions of innocent people into prisons. It was under NAT rule that most of those millions went to prison. One of the many terrible consequences of these laws was the agonizing separation of husband from wife and children from parents.
4. Over the 40 years of NAT rule, there were numerous massacres of the oppressed people who assembled peacefully.
5. Detention without trial and the free and frequent practice of torture. The courts of the land were too cowardly to do anything about it.
6. Scores of political detainees died in detention at the hands of the Security Police. Many more were murdered by the NAT government-sponsored assassination squads like the CCB and the Defence Force.
7. THREE AND HALF MILLION people from settled communities were forcibly removed from their homes and dumped in areas far from their work places and which areas were almost invariably undeveloped.
8. Job Reservation, which was designed to protect the Whites from competition, was applied to a point of madness. For example, it became a crime for an African painter to use his paint brush outside so-called Bantu areas.
9. Education, the foundation on which humanity builds for the future, was thoroughly debased and destroyed by Bantu Education.

10. Misuse of public funds, fat-cat salaries and massive perks, the creation of a gravy train as rewards for the NAT Party faithful.

Books can be written about NAT rule which has been described by all civilised people as barbarous, cruel, merciless and inhuman. On this score we have said enough.

Let us make it clear. Apartheid, also called APART-HATE, existed long before the NATS took power in 1948. It was then called SEGREGATION. Thus it will be seen that the NATS did not invent segregation or apartheid. They merely perfected it with a cruelty which would have made Hitler envious of them.¹

HERRENVOLKISM OR THE MASTER-RACE MENTALITY

The NATS, as the political front of the Afrikaner Broederbond, held close to their hearts, the belief that the Whites, especially the Afrikaners, were a God-chosen people. They regarded themselves as the Herrenvolk or the SIR people (Herr in German means "Sir") or the Master Race. The African, Indian and the "Coloured" people were considered inferior "races".

The Nazis based their world wide aggression on the basis that THEY were the MASTER RACE. That racist lie was blown to smithereens with the defeat of the Nazis in World War II. It was then proclaimed by the entire civilised world that there was only ONE human race and any claim to belong to a superior race was rejected as totally unscientific and insanely racist.

But the NATS persisted in perpetuating the LIE of racial superiority. It was in the worship of the false god of racial superiority that, for the black people, this land, a paradise for the Whites, became a living hell.

¹ With apologies to an S.A. Airways advertisement.

It was the loud cry of anguish of the inhabitants of this living hell which caught the attention of the civilised world. When that cry reached the four corners of the earth, people all over the world came to hate the NAT regime with an intensity hard to find elsewhere.

THE NEW NATS

One factor, and only one, in favour of the Old NATS was their brutal frankness when they described their attitude towards the oppressed people. Hence the notorious Jimmy Kruger, the Minister of So-called Justice, said how Steve Biko's death left him cold! Or a Carel de Wet, when being informed of police shooting people just a short while before the Sharpeville Massacre, exclaimed: "What! Only one dead!"

The New NATS have started off their campaign on a foundation of LIES. One of the most staggering lies told by any one in the world is the NAT claim that the NATS HAVE NOT KILLED ANYBODY!

Ever since the Whites set foot in this country, the blood of the African people has flowed freely. Blood River is not the only river of blood of the oppressed people in this country. There are many others.

Directly or indirectly, ALL governments in this country, whether led by the South African Party, the National Party, The Whites only Labour Party and the United Party, have caused the deaths of millions of the oppressed and exploited people. It matters not if the instrument of death was malnutrition, poor or non-existent health services, poor or non-existent housing, unemployment and starvation, crime leading to murders, killings by the police, army and recently by state-sponsored assassination squads etc.

The NATS were responsible for a substantial percentage of those who have thus died.

The New NATS have also claimed that THEY abolished apartheid and THEY released Mandela and unbanned the ANC and other organisations. What they do not state is WHO introduced and implemented apartheid in the first place? And WHO was it that banned the ANC and other organisations?

F.W. de Klerk, Pik Botha and other new NATS were all members of the National Party when the ANC was banned in 1960. They remained as NAT members throughout the time the ANC was banned and Mandela remained in prison. Throughout this period, there was not even a squeak of a protest about the continued banning of the ANC and imprisonment of Mandela and other political prisoners. Hence it is correct that the New NATS must take full responsibility for what took place for most part of NAT rule.

We, therefore, ask what is so heroic or great about releasing Mandela when it was they who imprisoned him in the first place?

What is so great or heroic about unbanning organisations when it was they who banned those organisations in the first place?

The New NATS also claim full credit for the abolition of apartheid. As will be seen below, they abolished apartheid very reluctantly. Then, too, because they had their arms so twisted by their imperialist masters that there was real danger of those being torn out.

THE SUPER AFRIKANERS²

The best known present-day NAT is F.W. de Klerk who has been carefully chosen to project the benign image of a Joshua Doorean uncle in the business of politics.

De Klerk was born and brought up in a family of political Afrikaners from great-grandfather downwards. He imbibed racist Afrikaner politics with his mother's milk. He belonged to that

² From the title of a book by Ivor Wilkins and Hans Strydom

exclusive and aristocratic caste called the Super Afrikaners. Members of this caste constitute the membership of the sinister and secret Broederbond.

De Klerk's active involvement in adult NAT politics covers a period of 30 years. He was not a naive and misled politician.

Another well known figure in NAT circles is Pik Botha. This man has given the greater part of his life to defending racist South Africa and white-washing the crimes committed by the regime. He has thus served the NATS, in one capacity or another, for over 40 years. He has served the governments of Dr Malan, J.G. Strydom, Dr Verwoerd, John Vorster and De Klerk, i.e. ALL Nationalist Party governments.

WHAT REALLY MADE THE NATS CHANGE?

The public has yet to be told what it was exactly that made the NATS change. What triggered off the change? Was it a massive lightning strike which unscrambled racist brains and paved the way for talking democracy? Was it a revelation from God to the NATS to end apartheid just as it was claimed that in implementing apartheid God's will was being carried out?

We are being told with loving looks and words that there is a genuine change of heart. To this we say: RUBBISH! Adult politicians who since childhood were taught racism as God's will and who spent a lifetime upholding and defending oppression and exploitation through apartheid DONT JUST CHANGE. The real reasons for the change must be sought OUTSIDE the lie of "change of heart because of a yearning for justice and fairplay."

1. We believe that the capitalist system, which used apartheid to extract super profits from the sweat and blood of the workers, will ONLY CHANGE if it is in its interest to change. And when it does make radical change, it would have done so for its survival or to obtain a more advantageous position in the unending battle against the worker.

2. Readers will recall how in the mid 1980's, the imperialists (USA, Britain, Canada, West Germany etc.) became thoroughly fed-up with P.W. Botha and his snail's-pace political change. When he failed to cross the Rubicon, with what was widely advertised as his Rubicon³ speech, the imperialists decided to teach him a lesson.
3. This was the time when the first serious sanctions were applied against South Africa. The world bankers refused to lend South Africa money nor would they give South Africa an extension of time to repay loans which had become due. South Africa was thus denied fresh capital and was compelled to fail in honouring of her debts.
4. The failure to honour her debts had a snowball effect on S.A.'s creditworthiness. Without foreign capital, S.A. was unable to obtain essential requirements for its industry, including oil. Without foreign capital, there could be no development, which in turn meant no employment for young people.

There was talk and fear that South African planes, ships and cargo could be attached and sold in execution in foreign countries to pay its debts. In other words, the entire economy was threatened with collapse and bankruptcy.

6. P.W. Botha was prepared to give cheek to his imperialist masters. He was quite prepared to defy them. But the mine and factory owners, the banks, finance houses and insurance companies were not interested in Botha's false pride. The imperialists wanted his scalp and the NAT caucus was willing to oblige.
7. As a first act of reconciliation with imperialism, the New NATS sent P.W. Botha packing. In his place stepped F.W. de Klerk, the leader of the New NATS.

³ Crossing the river Rubicon means taking a very serious and important decision from which there is no turning back

In a matter of some 4 years , the political face of South Africa was transformed. De Klerk crossed the Rubicon.

THE STRATEGY BEHIND THE CHANGE

It must be understood that the changes that have taken place have nothing to do with belief in non racialism, humanity and justice. The only reason for the change is the survival and adjustment of the system of capitalism, i.e. for the benefit of the rich and powerful and of the privileged whites in general.

WHAT IF WE ARE WRONG?

What if we are wrong about the New NATS and what if there is a genuine change of heart on their parts. We do not believe that we are wrong, but for the sake of discussion only, we are prepared to assume that we are wrong. We then say :

1. People, who have been criminally wrong for 30 years about the manner in which they governed people, cannot be entrusted with matters of government. Nobody employs a compulsive thief as a cashier.
2. If the NATS admit their wrongs and are genuinely sorry for the crimes of apartheid, then they must accept that they owe a debt to society, i.e. they must make up for their wrongs. They must start off by doing penance. Wearing sackcloth is a well known method of self-mortification or humility.
3. In the South African context, penance is best done by life-long service to the oppressed people who had suffered at their hands. The penance must commence with the lowliest, humblest and most menial service. Mao Tse Tung, that great leader and revolutionary, used to send

top government and party officials to work in piggeries and such places for self correction. True repentance would be measured by the enthusiasm shown by the New NATS in the performance of those menial services. And if there is adequate proof of true repentance, then only should they be allowed to serve society with their real talents.

4. In the unlikely event of the New NATS showing genuine repentance, we are prepared to reconsider our position.

However, it must be said that to date, there has been no evidence of anything, even faintly, resembling repentance. The contrary is the position. With a few slapdash "sorries", the New NATS want to slam shut the past and to proceed as if nothing had happened.

CONCLUSION

The names which appear on the NAT Election List is a list of persons who should never be in any government. Most, if not all, should be in jail. There are the racists and oppressors pretending to be angels. There are the sellouts from the Houses of Delegates and Representatives and the Bantustans. There are the breed of money grubbers and gravy train climbers. There is, at least one convicted murderer and two notorious gang leaders.

In keeping with our position on Election Lists, we say that a vote for the NATS will mean a vote for all the obnoxious creatures whose names appear on that list.

In spite of the propaganda from the SABC, radio and television, it must be emphasized that it is the democratic right of a voter NOT to vote if there is no party which is clean, honest, committed and which strives for the aspirations of the voter.

Unlike the misleading urgings from people like Professor Meer, we do not and cannot, with a clear conscience, ask people to **VOTE JUST FOR THE SAKE OF VOTING.**

**YESTERDAY'S
OPPRESSORS
CANNOT BE
TOMORROW'S
FREEDOM
LOVERS**

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FOR NATS
WHO HAVE
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