



VICTORY FOR JOSHUA DOORE WORKERS !

The recent spate of strikes by Ccawusa largely in the Transvaal region clearly shows that Ccawusa members remain among the most militant workers in the country.

By far the longest and most vicious strike in terms of police harassment was the Joshua Doore furniture group strike. The strike by over 2000 workers was around the retrenchment of close to 500 workers. While management on the one hand relied heavily on the police (close to 100 workers arrested) they have also been caught out in the use of Trevor Tutu and Yusuf Surtee.

Yusuf Surtee a director of Surtee's clothing stores shot into prominence by being accused of assisting the UDF, securing money from Chris Ball a former director of the First National Bank. Surtee tried to persuade a union organiser to stop the strike. Surtee showed the unionist letters from Cde Mandela and others in the liberation struggle. The union correctly viewed this as intimidation.

J.D. group made up of Bradlows, Price 'n Pride, Score and Joshua Doore last year had a turnover of R400 million and operating profits of R50 million. The union believe the group is large enough to absorb the

retrenched workers. They point out that since the retrenchment J.D. has employed many white staff. Besides the use of the police J.D. has also tried other dirty tricks - they have tried to declare the strike illegal at the industrial council but failed, they have now locked out workers from many stores taking advantage of the cold weather. This action places the pickets which are limited to 2-3 per store (according to the strike rules) under strain. As soon as there are more than 3 workers outside the store, management summons the police and cries intimidation. Despite the harassment workers remain determined. A support committee has been formed. The union has encouraged organisations and individuals to attend the support committee meetings at 142 Kerk street J.H.B. In a pamphlet issued about the strike the union says in their words "turn adversity into fortune". Initially the company patronisingly gave workers a chance to start their own businesses by getting them into contact with organisations like Get Ahead

Foundation Job creation and the Small Business Development Foundation. This attempt to channel workers to support 'Free Enterprise' was rejected by the workers and the union.

Besides creating untold misery for the 500 workers the retrenchment is also a great insult to the black community which constitutes a major market for the furniture sold at Joshua Doore.

We call on the workers at Joshua Doore, Price 'n Pride, Bradlows and Score to remain united through our difficult times. We call on the community to support our fight against retrenchment.

**CAPITALISM CREATES
RETRENCHMENT !!
PHANSI CAPITALISM
FORWARD TO SOCIALISM**

As we go to print Ccawusa and the Joshua Doore. Groups have reached an agreement. All 500 workers will be reinstated at a rate of at least 25 per month. This is a victory for the workers brought about through hard work and militancy.

We salute the members of Ccawusa.

**WORKERS VICTORY IS
CERTAIN.**