

that we want nothing short of unconditional transfer of power to the people. And since we know the Pretoria clique for what it is we are resolved to seize power with our might born of our unity and organisation, with guns in hand.

This scheme, therefore, is an insult to the dignity of our entire people and the world community. Even a fool can see that this is just another of their manoeuvres to hold on to power. Those who allow themselves to be dragged into this scheme will be showing clearly that they have chosen the side of the oppressor, and that they are being left so far behind by the rising tide of revolution that one wonders whether they will be visible for much longer on the road of our people's inevitable destiny.

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# **COMRADE PRESIDENT O.R. TAMBO ON AFRICA DAY**

## **FROM A RADIO FREEDOM INTERVIEW**

Africa Day was observed for the first time in 1958, the proclaimed date being April 15. At that time, following the independence of Ghana, the movement for the decolonisation of the whole continent of Africa was gathering momentum, uniting the people of Africa in a common struggle for freedom and independence from Algiers to Cape Town, from Senegal and Cape Verde to Mogadishu in Somalia.

Always in the fore-front of the struggle for African unity and for the liberation of Africa, the African National Congress marked the first Africa Day with a mammoth open air rally in Alexander township of Johannesburg. Large portraits of Africa's leaders were displayed at the gathering, among them Jomo Kenyatta, Kwame Nkruma, Jarmahl Abdel Nasser, Julius Nyerere and our own Chief Albert Luthuli.

By 1959 the tempo of the struggle had quickened throughout the continent. Colonialism was collapsing in many parts

of Africa. In South Africa itself the great Treason Trial was in progress in which the regime sought death sentences against leaders who had waged struggle for a new democratic South Africa based on the demands set out in the Freedom Charter. In that year our women throughout the country were on the offensive, resisting passes for women, pass laws, Bantu Education, Bantu authorities (later to be called Bantustans) stock-culling, removals, slave wages.

But not only the women - the youth, the intelligensia, the peasantry, people in the cities and the countryside were united in this great struggle. So it was not surprising that in 1959 the regime banned the demonstrations intended for Africa Day. The regime anticipated an attendance numbering hundreds of thousands of ANC militants in Johannesburg. By April 15, Africa Day in 1960, the situation had got out of hand for the racist regime and not merely rallies and demonstrations and gatherings, but the ANC itself had been banned.

Equally, of course, the situation had got out of hand for colonialism in Africa. The great decade of the 60s had started bringing with it the momentous day, May 25, 1963 when the people of Africa consolidated their unity in action in the formation of the Organisation of African Unity. That historic day was proclaimed Africa Day and is now observed internationally by the entire progressive world.

In the 17 years since its formation the OAU has survived many imperialist attempts to break it up. It has faced internal problems, including border conflicts. It has been confronted with external aggression against member states, such as the invasion of Guinea by fascist Portugal in the 70s and the invasions of Angola, Mozambique, Zambia and Botswana by South African and Rhodesian racist troops in more recent times.

Africa has waged a persistent struggle for political and economic independence on the continent. As part of the non-aligned movement it has worked for the liberation of the third world from poverty and starvation and economic domination. Africa has been a vital contingent of the world anti-imperialist forces and in the process has contributed to the cause of world peace. Indeed over these 17 years Africa has many, many victories to her credit. It has demonstrated its commitment to independence, independence of action, independence of decision-making, especially in international affairs. For example, Africa refused to heed the demands by the imperialist

powers for the expulsion of Soviet and Cuban personnel in Africa and latterly Africa has refused to impose sanctions on Iran or boycott this year's Olympic Games at the crack of the Washington whip, and this is regardless of their views about hostages in Teheran, of the situation in Afghanistan.

And yet, without any reservation whatsoever, the OAU has consistently fought for the political and cultural isolation, economic isolation of the South African regime because the South African system represents denial of everything Africa and the progressive world have fought and continue to fight for. The South African system is compounded of colonialism, oppression, exploitation, racism, fascism and imperialism.

The African struggle for liberation directs itself to South Africa because this part of the continent is under white settler domination now as it was in the 19th century. It is in this country where racism assumes its worst form. It is in South Africa where the exploitation of the working people is absolutely ferocious. The South African system seeks to reduce the majority of the people into inferiors in the world to keep them in a state of inferiority. By various devices the system imposes this inferiority. We can contrast the South African black to people in the rest of Africa. Thus where Salim Salim, a Tanzanian, is President of the United Nations General Assembly; Adam Kodjo, a Togolese, heads the CAU, where Mr Mba, of Senegal runs UNESCO and Dr Austin Zulu is in charge of the African division of IMF. The black man in South Africa lives in a mini world where his highest political achievement under that system is participation (and perhaps being elected) in Bantu Community Councils elections in Bantu townships, or Bantustan elections in purely tribal settings, and in the world of Coloured Councils, Indian Councils and Chinese Community Councils, all of them the creation of a supreme, superior and almighty whites only parliament.

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### DAWN politiXword No.3 - Answers

Across: 1. Discipline   6. Prisoner   7. Guns   9. Cut  
11. Pat   12. Energy   15. On   16. Freedom

Down: 1. Deploy   2. Science   3. Isolate   4. Lee  
5. Evolution   8. Spy   10. Unite   13. Gram  
14. GDR   15. OP