

RACIST AGGRESSION

Excerpts from a speech delivered by the Chief Representative of the African National Congress, CDE. CONNIE DLINGEA, at a Conference in Luanda, the capital of the People's Republic of Angola.

Today the aggressive character of the racist regime has become more pronounced because essentially the balance of forces has tipped markedly in favour of the progressive forces and the liberation movements in Southern Africa. Portuguese colonialism collapsed from the blows of liberation movements and in its place progressive independent African states of Mozambique and Angola came into being, whose policy is to support the liberation struggles in Southern Africa. The triumph of the liberation struggle in former racist Rhodesia resulted in the formation of a new independent African state of Zimbabwe.

Since the mid-70s, opposition against the barbarous regime inside the country has reached unprecedented levels in all spheres. Mass participation in militant actions against the racist regime has spread throughout the country. The black students' uprisings of 1976 which started in Soweto and spread throughout the country confirmed this mass participation in demonstrations, protests and boycotts. Thousands of black school children and students went into the streets of Soweto and other cities in the country and openly defied the trigger-happy South African police. Unable to control the situation, and redress the students' demands, the racist police opened fire at these young black South Africans and murdered over a thousand children. Hundreds were injured and others were imprisoned. This policy of mass murder, confirming the criminal nature of the apartheid regime has continued up to the present day. The revolt of young black South Africans has continued since. Only last year, the country was engulfed in yet other militant campaigns, boycotts and demonstrations by black students against the regime. They demanded better education, better facilities for the students and teachers and the scrapping of apartheid education.

C A U S E S

The basic cause of the hectic, aggressiveness and intolerance of the regime is its inability to contain the liberation

struggle which is led and directed by our people's organisation, the African National Congress.

The ANC, the liberation movement and vanguard of the struggling people of South Africa has within this period intensified the liberation struggle to an extent as never before. The internal mobilisation, the political campaigns, the underground clandestine work and the armed operations against the regime have been so conducted, that even the enemy itself, arrogant as it is, has had to admit that the ANC and its military-wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe (the Spear of the Nation) is the biggest threat to the continued existence of the obnoxious apartheid regime.

The increased underground work and the military operations are becoming more widespread, more often, more daring and more sophisticated. The militants of the African National Congress have attacked police and army units of the racist regime, and have attacked strategic government military and economic installations like SASOL and Secunda oil refineries, and have thereby demonstrated bravery determination and sophistication. The racist regime has always tried to destroy the ANC but has failed. The African National Congress has grown in prestige in the eyes of the struggling people, it enjoys international support and is feared and hated by the racists and imperialists.

The ANC, being the vanguard movement of the black people of South Africa, is their legitimate spokesman and the only force capable of delivering heavy body-blows to the enemy, the only force capable of answering racist fascist violence with revolutionary violence. In this protracted struggle, the ANC has reliable allies in Africa, in the socialist countries and in other parts of the world (democratically-minded forces in the Western countries). The ANC has set itself the revolutionary goal of continuing with the liberation struggle until victory is achieved.

ISOLATION

The other cause of racist aggressiveness is the ever-increasing isolation in Africa and internationally. The racist regime is finding it increasingly difficult to prove its legitimacy. Even some imperialist countries who are the main props of apartheid South Africa, are finding it difficult to openly flirt with apartheid.

The threat to stability, peace and security by South Africa is never as clearly reflected as in its wanton acts of

aggression against neighbouring independent African states. Since 1975/76 up to now, the racist regime has committed over 200 provocative armed attacks against the People's Republic of Angola (the reparation of which are estimated at more than 7-billion Dollars). Some of these attacks have assumed large scale attacks involving occupation of certain parts of southern Angola. These barbaric criminal acts have at time assumed full war scale. This undeclared war on Angola is being pursued by the regime to dissuade the people and government of Angola from supporting liberation movements in Southern Africa i.e. SWAPO of Namibia and the ANC of South Africa.

Namibia is illegally occupied and ruled by the fascist Pretoria boer regime. Encouraged by the imperialist countries the regime has sabotaged the UN-sponsored Geneva Talks on Namibia's independence. These talks had come about as a result of the incessant armed struggle waged by the only representative of the Namibian people, SWAPO of Namibia, against the illegal racist regime which has colonised their country.

Quite recently the apartheid regime has once again carried out criminal acts of brutality against the peoples of Southern Africa. Towards the end of January, racist commandos of the Union Buildings' fascists violated the territorial integrity of the People's Republic of Mozambique and attacked the ANC's residences at Matola, a town just outside Maputo. The target of the attack were three residences of South African refugees, members of the ANC.

The assassination of South African patriots, members of the African National Congress by the tyrannical apartheid regime is a continuation of the barbarous policy of apartheid which resulted in the death of hundreds of Zimbabwean refugees in Mozambique, Zambia and at Kassinga in the People's Republic of Angola, as well as the more than one thousand school children murdered in Soweto on June 16, 1976 and everywhere else.

COUP D'ETAT

It should be remembered that racist Pretoria recently tried to foment a coup d'etat in Zambia, carried out repeated attacks against Angola, infiltrated bandits and mercenaries into Zimbabwe and Mozambique to destabilise peace and security in these countries.

All these acts are a continuation of the barbaric policy of apartheid, a policy of aggression, resulting both from arrogance and desparation. As a continuation of the same policy, the regime has sentenced three young militants of our people to death for opposing apartheid. They are Comrades

Johnson Lubisi, Petrus Mashigo and Naphtalie Manana. These acts of wanton repression, mass murder inside the country and aggression externally, only confirm that the international community must give comprehensive support to the ANC and the oppressed people of South Africa. International campaigns should be launched to save the lives of our three comrades. It is necessary to step up the campaign for the release of our leaders and all political prisoners in the country. The Pretoria regime must be totally isolated and the international community must demand the withdrawal of the racists from occupied Namibia.

The international community will not be deceived by the internal cosmetic insignificant changes aimed at entrenching apartheid. Support assistance and solidarity must be given to the African National Congress of South Africa and the struggling black people of our country, the only force that is determined and capable of ridding mankind of this racist scourge.

'The Small Window'

- ELDRIDGE KATSE

"Gaan uit, gaan uit jong. Gaan staan buitekant en koop deur die klein venster." (Get out, get out you. Go and stand outside and buy through the small window). When I tried to answer, a hefty boer who was cutting "boerewors" with a big knife, came charging at me. He was quiet demented with anger. Without wasting time, I tactically retreated to the small window outside before the racist monster could slash me.

This incident took place in early 1976 at one restaurant in Bloemfontein, the citadel of apartheid in the Orange Free State, when I was en route to Port Elizabeth. This restaurant is the kind of shops that also sell hardware. Only whites were inside, some were buying whilst others were comfortably sitting and enjoying their delicious meals.

W I N D O W

The size of the window at which I and two other Africans were waiting to buy, was approximately 50 X 40 cm. A young white girl, far younger in age than me, came to serve us. I