

haps people who put it forward are people who have not understood properly.

Alternatively there are people who are speaking as the spokesmen, as the agents of the regime to promise manna and honey and sweetness to come out of institutions created by the enemy which are supposed to produce poison and say they are going to produce honey. And I am saying people who put forward that kind of thing are either very seriously deluded, have not thought out the matter properly or are just acting as enemy agents. I think the argument is very wrong, is very false, plays into the hands of the enemy. We've got to destroy these separate development institutions because they are one of the obstacles that stand between us and liberation.

TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE.

SECURING OUR PEOPLE'S FUTURE

- ALEX MASHINI

The question of securing the future of our people in our embattled Southern African region and the entire continent demands urgent attention. Our people are concerned with building for themselves a future free of all forms of oppression and exploitation, a peaceful and prosperous future. The youth, builders of new societies tomorrow, have an important role to play in the realisation of our people's noble ideals. This is a struggle which they must begin to wage now, with the aid of their revolutionary mothers and fathers. This is the spirit which prevailed during the First Co-ordinating Meeting of the Youth Organisations of the Front-Line States held in Luanda from the 18th to the 20th June, 1981.

The meeting was attended by delegates of JMPLA (MPLA Youth) of Angola, OJM (Mozambican Youth Organisation), Umoja wa Vijana of Tanzania, Zimbabwean Ministry of Youth, Sports and Recreation, SWAPO Youth League and ANC Youth Section. This came at a very crucial moment in our people's struggle for national independence and freedom. On the one hand are the great advances made by our people towards their liberation in Namibia and South Africa respectively. On the other hand

are the imperialists' manoeuvres aimed at reversing the revolutionary process in our region. The Reagan Administration is going all out to bolster up their policeman in the region, the Pretoria fascist colonial regime. Hence the stepped up repressive measures to suppress our people's just struggles and the continued acts of aggression to destabilise the independent Southern African states and finally overthrow the democratic governments to install puppets. This situation was fully appreciated by the meeting. The meeting noted that the complete destruction of the Botha-Malan fascist regime and the resultant emancipation of the people of Namibia and South Africa is a pre-condition for a peaceful and unhindered progress in the whole region. Thus the need for our people to face their common enemy, international imperialism, is one of the most important factors which prompted the convening of this meeting and served as the basis of unity and cooperation among the participants throughout the meeting.

Consequently, the struggle waged by our people in Namibia, as the meeting noted, is in a real sense the continuation of the victorious struggles waged by our brother peoples of Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and beyond. This was clearly expressed in the aims of the meeting as described in the joint Luanda Declaration: "...studying ways and methods of coordinating their activities, considering the role and objectives of the Front-Line States in relation to the struggles being waged in Southern Africa for total liquidation of colonialism and the Apartheid system and the establishment of free Namibia and South Africa, and conscious of the role the Youth can play in augmenting the efforts of these countries of this region for the acceleration of the independence process in Namibia and South Africa."

PROGRAMME OF ACTION

Looking at the lofty aims of the meeting it become clear that this was not just an occasion for making a gesture of solidarity to our oppressed but fighting people. The participants had come together to plan immediate and effective action. For this purpose the meeting unanimously adopted a programme of action in which the participants decided, on behalf of the members of their respective organisations, among other things, to: "Intensify the international campaign for the release of Nelson Mandela, Herman ja Toivo and other political prisoners languishing in racist dungeons of South Africa and the campaign for repealing the death sentence imposed on

three combatants of the African National Congress; Naphthalie Manana, Petrus Mashigo and Johnson Lubisi and an activist of SWAPO, Marcus Kateka by the racist regime of South Africa." They also decided to organise activities at national level, backing the international campaign for ending collaboration with racist South Africa and imposition of comprehensive and mandatory economic sanctions against the racist regime of South Africa.

OAU SUMMIT

In their deliberations and in the significant decisions they took, the participants did not confine themselves to the problems of Southern Africa. The problems facing our continent and for whose solution the 18th OAU Summit was scheduled to start later during the month did not go unnoticed to the participants. The participants sent a message to the Summit, warmly greeting the occasion and expressed their awareness of "the fact that this Summit is a great step forward in the present process for the total liberation of this continent from the last bastions of imperialism." They specifically addressed themselves to one of the crucial questions to be settled by the Summit; the admission of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic as the 51st member of the Organisation of African Unity and demanded the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Moroccan forces from that territory. The participants also focussed their attention on the promotion of activities in solidarity with the peoples of Asia and Latin America. Acknowledging their duty to participate actively on the initiatives promoted by the Pan African Youth Movement (PAM), All African Student Union (AASU), IUS and the World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY) the participants set as their immediate task contribution in the preparation of the 2nd Youth and Students International Conference in solidarity with the peoples of Southern Africa scheduled to meet in Luanda in November 1981.

CORRECT PATH

The decision by the youth of the Front-Line States to coordinate their actions in solidarity with their struggling brothers in Namibia and South Africa is a very significant development. The youth of our region are firmly on the correct path charted by their fathers and mothers. In this way they are ensuring the preservation and development of the revolutionary traditions built by our revolutionary mother

organisations. In carrying out their revolutionary duties as the leaders of our respective peoples our vanguard organisations the MPLA, FRELIMO, the Patriotic Front, SWAPO and the ANC have always maintained a fighting alliance to share experiences and assist one another and to cooperate on all issues connected with our peoples' struggles for freedom. This alliance was and still is an expression of the common experience of suffering under the brutal system of national oppression and exploitation - colonialism, common struggle and common destiny. This meeting, therefore, marked a rich point in the consolidation of our peoples' unity which our elders have been building for decades.

YEAR OF THE YOUTH ACHIEVEMENTS

This meeting is one of the great achievements of the Year of the fighting Youth of South Africa. Its significance is not confined to the assistance given to our people in isolating the Pretoria regime internationally. It has served to place the participation of our fighting youth in contributing to the solution of the problems facing mankind on a firm basis - the struggle against imperialism, for peace and progress. Above all the decisions taken at the meeting have a direct bearing on the advancing of our people's struggle for freedom right inside fascist South Africa. In their final declaration the youth of the Front-Line States pledged themselves to:

- mobilise the Youth of their respective countries in order to participate in the National reconstruction and defend their territorial integrity.
- promote permanent mobilisation of the Youth of the Front-Line States for the National liberation struggle in Namibia and South Africa.

The existence of free, independent and strong states on our borders will not only serve as a source of inspiration to our people but will also deny the Pretoria fascist regime and its imperialist allies the suitable environment for the perpetration of its genocidal policies on our people. Surely, this meeting is a giant step towards the fulfilment of our people's deeply felt desire which was eloquently spelt out by Comrade President O.R. Tambo when he said:

"It is our hope that the international democratic youth and student movement will also use the occasion of these anniversaries (June 16 and December 16 - Ed) to strengthen links of comradeship and solidarity with the embattled youth and students of our country, and take new initiatives to intensify the campaign for the total isolation of the apartheid regime."

It was no coincidence that the participants in the meeting formally adopted the day of the June 16 Soweto Uprisings and 26th August, the day of launching of armed struggle in Namibia as special rallying days in support of our peoples' struggles. In Luanda and other capitals of the Front-Line States the Fifth Anniversary of June 16 Upheavals was marked in a befitting manner.

We have no doubt that the implementation of the decisions taken at the Luanda First-Coordinating Meeting of Front-Line States will lay a strong basis for future joint action among the different contingents of the fighting youth of Southern Africa. To ensure this the participants agreed to meet annually and to maintain close co-operation in the intervening period. This is a great achievement and our people can rest assured that their future is assured.

Letter to the Editor

(THE WILL TO RESIST)

South African Battleground
P.O. Box ANC
(of South Africa)
Year of the Youth (1981)

Comrade Editor,

As we forge ahead with our revolutionary armed struggle some patriots, revolutionaries, fall into enemy hands. Those who have ever been engaged in war will know this. In past months we have had discussions with comrades and friends about the behaviour of a revolutionary when he is in the hands of the enemy. This is not just a subject of theoretical