

Destroy Bantustans and March Forward to Freedom

(FROM A RADIO FREEDOM BROADCAST)

— ZABA MALEDZA

About 75km north east of Pretoria a congested ghetto of tin shacks, mud huts and houses stretches into the dusty horizon. This will be your first sight of KwaNdebele - the smallest of Pretoria's "homelands". Verwoerd did not even provide for this Bantustan in his original plan of dispossession of the Black majority. Population estimates range from 200 000 to 1 million, a sign of utter confusion and disregard for the people dumped there. What strikes you as you travel in this area is the way the land changes. As you leave "White South Africa", the sprays irrigating rich and green white-owned farms, give way to scrubby bushveld and finally you come to a dry, poor soil which produces mainly thorn bushes. Dust hangs in the air, and as every car passes, clouds of dust pollute the dry hot air. The dust drifts over you, covers your hair, eyes and clothes.

FARMING

Of course there is no farming here. Looking around you will notice the tiny barren plots around the tin or

mud shacks - without any crops or vegetables. The residents say that this place was never irrigated...that this place, formerly consisted of dry, white owned farms in which the racists spent their weekends. That is how impossible they were considered for cultivation.

If you ask these residents where they come from, they will tell you that they were evicted from well irrigated rich "White owned farms" in and around Delmas, Witbank and Middleburg. Another group will tell you that they were chased away from Bophuthatswana and from Lebowa - by the puppets there, while another group was expelled from "White urban areas". Who was in Middleburg, Witbank or Delmas before the boers?

Within a short time of your arrival you will be told by the residents that this dumping ground is controlled by a clique of businessmen - politicians who monopolise the few businesses that you will see in this wilderness. All liquor licenses are held by the "cabinet ministers". They

will quote the example of one puppet administrator who owns three bottle stores and four general dealer shops.

All the "ministers" have one or more businesses. In the cabinet, the highest qualified has a junior certificate. More than half the teachers are unqualified - some have only a standard six certificate. But despite this shortage of qualified teachers the puppets appoint their unqualified family members to teaching posts, even if there is somebody more qualified.

For the residents of this hunger-land the sun rises earlier and sets later than anywhere on earth with the exception of sister Bantustans in racist South Africa.

The sun rises at 2 a.m. when hundreds have to board the first buses to far-away "White South Africa" to work for Whites. It sets at 9 p.m. when the last group of tired workers return to the miserable ghetto. In all, more than half the workers must rise before 4 a.m. No other workers on earth have a longer working day. For these victims of apartheid the average working day is 14 hours and for hundreds of them it is 19 hours.

How long can a worker live under such conditions? Why should he rest for only 5 hours for everyday? Can his health survive such a strain for a year, for two - for everyday? Is this his share of 'independence' when Skosana and his family own a butchery and a general dealer shop in addition to their fat salaries and government cars; F. Mahlangu owns a cafe, Mnguni, a cafe, Cornelius Mahlangu a chain of

businesses and a bottle store at the 'capital' Siyabusa to show that he actually rules the Ndebele with the backing of his masters in Pretoria; and finally Ntule, the junior certificate intellectual of this pack of blood suckers, has a supermarket, a restaurant and a bottle store?

All of them in addition to their fat salaries the regime subsidises houses and free cars. And for their benefit our people must choke under the dust of KwaNdebele, wake up at unnatural hours to work for the boers, return home late and physically exhausted... a people sentenced to a slow death. The rest must go without work; the children must starve, suffer from malnutrition and related diseases. Again this area must add its quota of tiny graves - to recreate the Dimbasas, Limehills and Onverwachts of our Motherland.

This then is Kwa-Ndebele, whose treacherous puppets, have conspired with their master in Pretoria to declare this mockery independence by the end of next year. These puppets have already agreed in principle to opt for 'independence' in May last year during their meeting with racist Piet Koornhof in Cape Town.

Puppet history is repeating itself. The traitors' road of collaboration has a new batch of fellow-travellers consisting of greedy, selfish and unpatriotic stooges. Skosana has joined Matanzima, Sebe, Mangope and Mphephu. The remaining people, the oppressed black majority, can stop this treacherous drive to perpetual enslavement.

For their survival it is a duty they cannot postpone any further. As usual Skosana and Company did not consult the people when opting for 'independence'. Puppets never consult. They claim, that as soon as they were granted 'self-government' there was no turning back. What they deliberately forget is that that very 'self-government' was demanded by them as puppets, and that even then there was no need to consult the people.

The Inzundza Tribal Authority which was recognised by Pretoria in 1974 is a puppet creation designed to take advantage of Pretoria's policy of robbing us of our birthright to South Africa. Most of you were working where you were staying. You never had to wake up at 2 am to go to work. Now you have to do it so that Skosana and Company can live in posh houses, drive beautiful cars, earn fat salaries and an empire of businesses.

Has Mahlangu and Skosana any connection with Nyabel, the Mapoch who fought bitterly and heroically for 8 months when he was besieged by boers in the caves, are they the descendants of Mashobane who was a terror to the boers? Their action gives us a negative answer. Even the examples of Venda, Ciskei, Bophuthatswana & Transkei have taught the puppets nothing. The failure of Bantustans in Zimbabwe, the crumbling of the DTA Bantustan grouping under the hammer blows of SWAPO in Namibia has gone unnoticed by these stooges.

Quite often history may tolerate adventurists for a moment, but will

never let any stooge reverse its course. The history of Africa in general and of Southern Africa in particular seems to be unclear to these simpletons in the Bantustan puppet regimes. The resistance of our people to Bantustans shows itself clearly in the heroic resistance to forced removals. Every week there are clashes with the fascist gestapo all over the country who are trying to bulldoze our people out of their ancestral homes. This has become a life and death struggle. Who is to blame? Pretoria and its puppets.

Who benefits from the people's suffering? Again it is the black puppets and their white racist masters in Pretoria. All puppets benefit from Bantustanisation. It matters little whether 'self-governing' or 'independent'. While driving Pretoria's cars on the road to dummy independence they want to retain some credibility by claiming that they won't opt for 'independence'. At best they are buying time to see which way the wind is blowing and they present a very funny spectacle while twisting their necks at 180 degrees to address the revolution as if they were part of it.

Puppets never consult. If they had consulted the people would have thrown the Freedom Charter into their faces. The people would have told them that "South Africa belongs to all who live in it... and that no government can justly claim authority unless it is based on the will of all the people." That "The People Shall Govern", not a white racist clique or



This is where people live in 'independent' Transkei the belly-crawling nest of vipers, the puppets in community councils or Bantustans. Most of all, the people would have told them that "The People Shall Share in the Country's Wealth", and that neither the boers nor the Skosanas must grow fat when the people starve and die.

It is obvious that the only people who benefit are the boers and their puppets. The people are being sacrificed here. In order to survive the people must strike back at their enemies. We are not just addressing the people of Kwa-Ndebele - this is just an example, a sample of the massive campaign to disinherit us all. It was the Transkei and you thought it had nothing to do with you. So you did nothing. It was Bophuthatswana, and perhaps you were still not touched, and therefore you did nothing to stop this injustice. But, after Venda, Ciskei, and today Kwa-Ndebele no right thinking blackman or woman can still continue deceiving himself or herself into thinking that he or she is not involved.

UNITY

Whether you are in town or countryside the road is the same unless

you stop the Boers and their puppets. This calls for united action between all people in urban areas and in the countryside - between all ethnic groups from the Cape to the Limpopo and from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean. All democratic organisations must establish branches everywhere to unite all ethnic groups and to map out common strategies to destroy these puppet regimes and their masters. Form underground organisations to educate the people about Bantustans and to mobilise them into united action against the puppets and their masters in Pretoria.

Do not vote for them. Form strong opposition parties to destroy Bantustans. Disrupt their meetings and their parliaments. Attack the puppets and make life impossible for them as they are trying to make it impossible for you. You must not let them continue growing fat at your expense.

The Bantustan is your greatest enemy because it creates disunity among us. The Bantustans and the puppets are used by the boers to enslave us, so that now we are being used to enslave ourselves. DESTROY BANTUSTANS AND MARCH FORWARD TO FREEDOM.