

Pretoria/Swaziland 'land deal':— Fraught with grave dangers

MEMORANDUM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SWAZILAND
ON THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN
SWAZILAND AND THE PRETORIA REGIME ON
KA-NGWANE AND NGWAVUMA

THE National Executive Committee of the African National Congress presents its compliments to His Majesty King Sobhuza II, the National Council and the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland. We pray that the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland will consider this memorandum with the seriousness we are convinced it deserves, in the interests of the unity of the African peoples and as a reaffirmation of our common resolve to liberate the mother continent from racist and colonial apartheid domination.

The reported agreement between the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland and the apartheid regime is fraught with grave dangers for the brother people of Swaziland and South Africa. If implemented, it will seriously complicate and impede the struggle for the liberation of South Africa, and transform Swaziland into an ally of the apartheid regime, a regime which is objectively an enemy of the people of Swaziland. Conscious of our responsi-

bilities to the people of South Africa, Southern Africa and the continent as a whole, we humbly urge the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland to renounce this agreement and desist from carrying it out. Since its foundation nearly 20 years ago, the Organisation of African Unity, of which Swaziland is a member, has stood firm on the position that, in the interests of peace and unity, the colonial boundaries delimiting the states of Africa

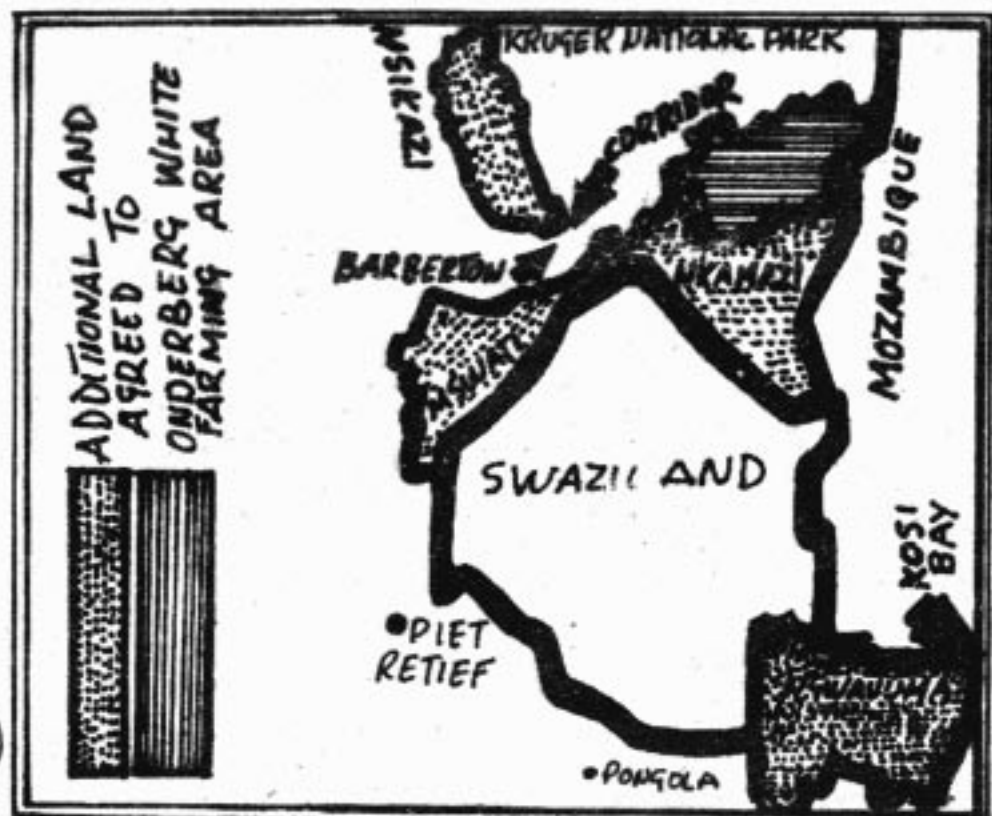


Cdes. Secretary-General, A. Nzo and Treasurer-General T. Nkobi who led the ANC delegation to Swaziland

should not be redrawn except by free and mutual consent between the countries and peoples involved. Experience has shown that where this principle is violated, inter-African conflict and disunity do inevitably follow. Already this agreement has generated intense animosities between Swazi and Swazi and between Swazi and Zulu involving millions of African people. This situation gravely undermines the cause of African unity and gives rise to the possibility of fratricidal strife among the African people. This fits in perfectly with the divide and rule strategy of the apartheid regime and can only serve to extend the lease of life of this regime. As in other parts of

Africa, the nation states of Southern Africa are composed of peoples who speak various languages and who emanate from different ancestral origins. Many of these are to be found in more than one state as large settled communities. Accordingly, there are Swazi-speaking

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FASCISM ON THE RAMPAGE



June 26: Mourners carry Joe Mavi's coffin

DURING the month of June, evidence of the regime's desperation and preparedness to resort to all fascist methods to suppress our popular actions once more came to the fore.

What has emerged from Pretoria's frantic response to the commemorations of June 16th and 26th, from the inquest into Dr Neil Aggett's murder (see box), the attempt to suppress information about the detention of Quraish Patel, Manthata Tsedu and other patriots, and the passing of the Registration of Newspapers Amendment Bill, is that the regime brooks not even the slightest opposition to its fascist system. These developments point to one thing: that we should close our ranks even further and meet the oppressor with united determination.

The regime did all it could to prevent the commemorations of June 16th and 26th - South Africa Freedom Day. As a build up to these days, roadblocks and police patrols in our areas were reinforced; mourners at the memorial service for Joseph Mavi and the Nzima family were rounded up; journalists and other patriots were detained; and the fascists even attempted to prevent the Mavi family from burying the deceased on South Africa Freedom Day. Despite all the intimidation, we turned up in huge numbers in Soweto, Katlehong, Mamelodi, Port Elizabeth, Cape Town, Durban and other areas to pay tribute to the martyrs of 1976 and to the Congress heroes of the Defiance Campaign. In frustration, the regime barred journalists

from all over the world to these services in an attempt to suppress information about these events.

What the regime was trying to hide is that June 16th was commemorated in action through a stay-at-home and other actions in all areas of the country; that we do not only remember those martyrs, but are also resolved to avenge them by intensifying the fight for the seizure of power. What the regime wanted to conceal is that the people identify with the ANC and its programme the Freedom Charter and will not

rest until South Africa Freedom Day is celebrated in a free South Africa.

It has become obvious that the regime is carefully creating conditions for a complete black-out on news about resistance. Steadily, Pretoria is reducing our country into a huge concentration camp where its fascist police can murder and maim without these crimes reaching the eyes and ears of the rest of the population and the world. It is quite significant that, during the same period, the regime warned the media not to disclose the names of patriots it had detained. Although the ruling was later revoked, it all pointed to the

fact that the fascists are leading our country into a situation where people will disappear without mention, and without trace!

Progressive Suppression

Democrats in South Africa have often pointed out that the progressive suppression of all news about popular actions of the ANC and the people's army bodes ill for all who genuinely believe in the freedom of the press; that meek protest on the part of the "liberal" media only encourages the fascists to move even further.

Yet, even this latest violation of their right to cover these important national events met with half-hearted protest on the part of the media. The ruling that the press should not mention the names of the detainees met with acquiescence. Instead, the "liberal" press went further to openly encourage the regime by co-operating with the fascists in the passing of the press bill. The "voluntary and independent body recognised by legislation" to which the entire media will be forced to belong is being set up. Its code of conduct, drafted by the National Press Union and the Conference of Editors

AGGETT INQUEST

Once again, the sadist brutality of the fascist "security police" has come to the attention of the public. At the inquest into the murder of Dr. Neil Aggett, "startling" revelations have been made about the fascist torturers who revel in splashing the blood of their victims on the floors and walls of prison cells; savage beasts who find gratification in squeezing the scrota of the detainees; expert brutes who apply electric shocks to their victims and harrass them for days on end without sleep; women sergeants whose hobby is to pass complaints about ill-treatment back to the torturers, and "defenders of civilisation" who "love that joke" of throttling their victims to death.

Nobody, except the defenders of the fascist

system expected anything less. Thousands of patriots have more maimed physically and mentally for life at the hands of the fascist police.

The pretence at justice and fair-play by the regime's magistrate and prosecutor at the inquest has fallen apart - like in other inquests before - as the men and women who are defenders of that "justice" stand without shame in court, each meekly trying to cover-up for the obvious murder. A district surgeon did not visit the detainees as expected because that would be "violation of protocol"; an inspector of detainees did not see Aggett because the inspector was "in a hurry"; head of the Johannesburg Security Police believes Aggett was interrogated for 60 hours running, at the

deceased's "own request"; the policeman on duty did not check Aggett on the hour of his death because he "was too busy" - and on it goes.

As in the cases of Timol, Mdluli, Mapetla, Tabalaza, Biko... the regime will do all it can to exonerate the culprits on the grounds that there "is insufficient evidence for prosecution".

We should, however, realise that it is our protest actions that forced the regime to hold the inquest in the first place. Through our actions in the anti-detention front we forced the Supreme Court judge to concede the admissibility of Aggett's statement made before his death. We can achieve much more in the way of ensuring that these murderers are brought to book!

has been submitted to the fascist Internal Affairs Minister for approval. With the co-operation of the 'liberal' press, hitherto independent and democratic newspapers such as popular community, students', trade union and other papers will be forced by the regime to subject themselves to a code approved by the regime.

The regime's fascist measures must be checked. Patriotic journalists, their organisations and other democratic forces should expose this unholy alliance between the regime and the newspaper-owners. We must intensify the demand for the right to report independently and objectively and to know the truth about the situation

in our country. We must intensify the fight for the release of all those arrested during the commemorations, all detainees and political prisoners.

Our successful commemoration of these historic national days has shown that we can defeat the enemy's attempts to suppress our popular actions. Let us move ahead to implement the far-reaching resolutions made in remembrance of the martyrs of 1976 and the heroes of the Defiance Campaign. All those who cherish freedom, democracy and equality should join this popular front against the fascist monster: 'He who does not wish to be an anvil, must the hammer be' !

Of particular significance in the latest wave of strikes in the mines is the spirit of unity and solidarity shown by the miners. On Friday the 2nd of July, almost 10,000 workers in three different mines downed tools and defied the guns, batons and teargas of the fascist police within hours, the number of strikers had increased to 27,000 in six different mines. They stood together, and even went together to demand 'a discharge' when the threat of dismissal was issued. At other mines, their fellow workers also organised for action in solidarity with the strikers. "Some of us wanted to start a riot", said one miner who had resigned from Deelkraal near Carltonville, "in sympathy with the West Driefontein miners".

Even without an organisation of their own, the workers have displayed a wealth of initiative, and have rejected in action the so-called liaison committees which "do not really repre-

workers. In 1980, when the price of gold had doubled our wages were increased by only 23%, and in 1981 the increase was reduced to 17%.

The Unemployed

The mine-owners have always exploited our organisational weakness and the existence of a large reserve of the unemployed in the rural areas, to keep our wages low, to overwork us and to resist our demand for better living and working conditions. They have built a huge army of mine "security guards", and are assured of extra "protection" from the fascist police who are always at the beck and call of the exploiters. It is for these reasons that, in the latest strikes, they could afford to dismiss our call for negotiation and tell us to "seek work elsewhere". Whilst, on the other hand they negotiated and reached at a compromise, with the white mineworkers who had only threatened to strike, and

Publicise the miner's plight

THE fascist police and their appendages in the mines have once again spilled the blood of black mineworkers. 10 workers have lost their lives, and hundreds have sustained wounds and fractures for taking strike action in protest at the small wage increases of 12% which came into force at the beginning of July.

In West Driefontein, Grootvlei, Buffelsfontein, the collieries in Natal . . . the story is the same. The mine exploiters refused to listen to the just demand of the starving workers and their families for a living wage. Instead, they chose to call the fascist police, pointing an accusing finger at non-existent 'agitators', and unashamedly closing their eyes to the low wages, lack of popular workers' organisations, long working hours, the migratory labour system, terrible working and living conditions, bad food and assaults by white racist miners which are the lot of the super-exploited black workers. This is not surprising, for it is these deprivations that have seen to the growth of the mining

industry, ensuring, over the years, huge profits for the mine exploiters.

Simmering Anger

These and other grievances of black mineworkers have made the mining industry an arena of simmering anger and frustration leading to occasional explosions, the rate of which has been on the increase in the past few years as the workers' consciousness and militancy rises. In all cases, the workers have not spared the symbols of the intense oppression and exploitation at their workplace and living-quarters. At the beginning of July, the striking miners damaged the squalid hostels and dining halls, burned mine offices, shops, vehicles and beerhalls.



Fascist mine 'riot' police about to pounce on striking miners

sent the people". They have once more emphasised the fact that the creation of a union by, and to serve the interests of the 500,000-strong black workforce in the mines, is long overdue. This task which faces all democratic, trade unionists, demands painstaking work in each mine and hostel, and in all areas whence the miners are recruited.

The feeble excuse of the exploiters to keep our wages low - that they cannot afford to pay higher wages due to the low prices of minerals - has long been exposed and rejected by the

whose wages are, after all seven-times ours.

While the mine exploiters and the regime celebrate their "successful" suppression of our strikes, let us intensify, in all mines, the demand for higher wages and better working and living conditions. All patriots must publicise the plight of mineworkers, in all factories, townships and villages. The time to start with the groundwork for the formation of a black mineworkers' union is NOW! Acting in unity, we can still wipe the bosses' smiles from their bloated faces!

HELP SPREAD THE MESSAGE OF THE ANCI PASS MAYIBUYE ON:

*GIVE IT TO YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY

*DROP IT IN A NEARBY POSTBOX OR YARD

*STICK IT ONTO A PUBLIC WALL OR BUS
SHELTER AT NIGHT

*DISCUSS THE ISSUES RAISED WITH THE PEOPLE
YOU MEET AND YOUR FRIENDS.

BE CAREFUL!!!



Pretoria/Swaziland 'land deal'

people in South Africa as there are in Swaziland. There are Sotho-speaking people in South Africa as there are in Swaziland. There are Sotho-speaking people in Lesotho as there are in South Africa. Tswana-speaking people are to be found both in Botswana and in South Africa, as are Shangaan-speaking people in Mozambique and South Africa and Venda-speaking people in Zimbabwe and South Africa. Conscious of their obligations towards the goals of the larger African community, none of the independent states in the region have pressed claims of annexation of the relevant sections of the South African population. Similarly, some have correctly refused attempts by the Pretoria regime to have these sections declared aliens in South Africa and nationals of the relevant independent neighbouring state. Since its formation 70 years ago this year, the African National Congress has fought against all attempts by successive South African regimes to annex Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland, attempts partly argued on the basis that the populations of these countries constituted extensions of population groups living in South Africa. We would consider it highly regrettable that Swaziland should, at this late hour, set herself apart from the rest of the African peoples of our region by breaking with the tradition described above, by electing to separate the Swazi-speaking population of South Africa from the rest of the African population of our country and by joining hands with the apartheid regime in carrying out a policy which aims at transforming South Africa into a

white man's country by declaring the African people aliens in the country of their birth.

Our feeling of regret is made more intense by the fact that the royal house of Swaziland, representing the Swazi people, helped to found the African National Congress in 1912. Then and during the subsequent decades, to date, Swaziland recognised that the peoples of Southern Africa and of Africa shared common interests and a common destiny. Accordingly, the Swazi people were at one time with those of South Africa, in the struggle to

welfare by the stress on ethnic divisions. The Pretoria regime, the arch-enemy of the African peoples, actively seeks to worsen these divisions, in its own interests. In this situation, the people of South Africa count on the Government and people of Swaziland to recall the heritage of unity and African brotherhood which Queen Regent Labotsibeni left us and, as before, to reaffirm, practically, their loyalty to this heritage.

Having refused to recognise the legitimacy of the racist and colonial apartheid regime, from its inception the OAU has rejected the claim of this

country. The people of South Africa and their liberation movement would therefore be within their right if they refuse to recognise the validity of such agreements. This position already has force in international law to the extent that the international community has formally declared invalid the decisions of the apartheid regime to balkanise the territory of South Africa through the Bantustan policy. It is our hope that Swaziland will continue to respect these positions which she herself helped to formulate.

We believe that it is fundamentally wrong to change the nationality of any

On the 24th of July, President Oliver Tambo left for the Kingdom of Swaziland after attending a one-day summit of leaders of the 9 Southern African states grouped into the Southern African Development Co-ordinating Conference (SADCC), which was held in Gaborone, capital of Botswana. The President whose visit is at the invitation of the Swazi government was to hold discussions with the Leadership of the Kingdom of Swaziland to further reiterate the stand of the South African people led by the ANC, on the "land deal".

forge even greater African unity and to liberate the oppressed African peoples. Over the decades, the leaders of the peoples of Swaziland and South Africa have worked strenuously to teach their peoples about the fact that they were in actuality one people who had been forcibly divided by the colonial powers. When the founding fathers of the ANC, including the distinguished royal house of Swaziland, voted in January 1912 to strive to "bury the demon of tribalism", they cherished the ideal not of the separation of the peoples of Southern Africa, but of their unification, emphasising the common African bonds that unite us and pointing to the grave harm done to our

regime to represent the people of South Africa. In keeping with these positions, the OAU has recognised the liberation movement as the authentic representative of the people of South Africa and has therefore granted our movement the status of an observer at the OAU. These positions have been endorsed, and the course pursued, by the OAU followed, by the Non-Aligned Movement and the General Assembly of the United Nations Organisation as well as the specialised agencies of the U.N. Accordingly, we are convinced that it is both politically and morally incorrect to enter into agreements with the illegitimate apartheid regime which affect the territorial integrity of our

people without their express consent. In this particular case, the decision to change the nationality of almost a million South Africans has been reached without any consultation whatsoever with these people and, indeed, against their express wishes. The imposition of a new nationality on these people would, in essence, mean that they are being colonised. There is no possibility that such a development can be acceptable either to the people of South Africa or to the international community.

Altering Boundaries

The purpose of the apartheid regime in seeking to alter the boundaries of South Africa and to expatriate almost a million Africans are



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clear. They are:

- a) to further the policy of transforming South Africa into a white man's country by depriving the entire African population of their South African citizenship;
- b) to impose on the Government of Swaziland the obligation to ensure that this population of one million South Africans does not participate in the struggle to liberate South Africa and that the ANC, the recognised leader of the oppressed and struggling masses of South Africa, is denied access to these people;
- c) Further to integrate Swaziland within the South African economy, in pursuance of the policy of the apartheid regime of forming a neo-colonialist "constellation of Southern African states"; and
- d) to alleviate the problem of African unemployment, which has assumed crisis proportions, by denying a million South Africans the right to employment in South Africa, since they will have been turned into foreigners.

It is our firm belief that the Government of Swaziland realising the grave injustice which the apartheid regime seeks to inflict on the people both of Swaziland and South Africa, will join hands with us to rebuff the manoeuvres of our common enemy.

An equally disturbing aspect of this agreement is the intention to develop the area along the Indian Ocean, reportedly to be ceded to Swaziland, as a naval base for use by the Western and South

African navies. This refers specifically to Kosi Bay. Quite clearly, this is a very dangerous ploy designed to transform Swaziland into a military base for purposes of terrorising and committing aggression against the rest of independent Africa, policing the Indian Ocean and the South Atlantic in the interest of the Western powers and providing these powers with a base from which they can easily and at the opportune moment, dispatch their military forces into South Africa, to save the apartheid regime from its inevitable defeat by our liberation movement. As an expression of its intent, the apartheid regime is already building an all-weather road, at the cost of tens of millions of Rand, to link Kosi Bay with the rest of the South African road network. We are convinced that the Government of Swaziland, in keeping with its obligations under the Charters of the OAU, the Non-Aligned Movement and the UN, will defeat this effort to turn the Kingdom of Swaziland into an enemy of the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America and a base which threatens international peace and security.

The people of Swaziland and of South Africa can and

will, in future, solve any territorial disputes between them peacefully and amicably in the spirit of African brotherhood and mutual solidarity. For this to be possible it is however necessary that the people of South Africa should, like those of Swaziland, govern themselves. It is therefore our considered view that the Government of Swaziland would be perfectly within its rights to raise any territorial question with the government of a liberated South Africa, should there be such questions. In the meantime, it would, in our view, have been of advantage both to Swaziland and ourselves, if the Government of Swaziland had sought the opinion of the ANC on the questions under discussion, before entering into negotiations with the Pretoria regime.

We wish to assure the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland of our high fraternal esteem and of our conviction that we can and must, between ourselves, reach an honourable agreement which will advance the cause of African liberation and unity.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE

LUSAKA, July 15, 1982.

President Tambo on:— Boycott victory

THE soccer tour of South Africa by football players from abroad, has collapsed. We must congratulate our people on this great victory. This has been the biggest blow delivered against those forces which are working feverishly to defeat the struggle against apartheid and racism in our country. And this blow has been delivered by our people, the victims of that system.

We hope that the South African breweries, who have been engaged in these shady deals against our people, will have learnt a lesson. What has happened accords with the wishes of the vast majority of the peoples of the world. Our players: Moroka Swallows, Kaizer Chiefs, and Orlando Pirates, have served the black community in our country, the oppressed. They have served the patriots and the democrats of our country. They have also served the community of the world which wants to see liberation in our country. And it is good that this initiative should have been taken by them.

We are having too many mercenaries in this part of

Africa-mercenaries for the Seychelles, mercenaries to fight against Swapo and the Namibian people, and now mercenaries on our sportsfields: mercenaries against our sportsmen and our sportsfans. Too many vultures are descending on our country, to collect large sums of money extracted from the exploited labour of black workers. We hope that they have learnt a lesson, and that others who have this kind of ambition, should now know that when they come, they are coming as enemies to assist the forces of exploitation, oppression and racism. This victory is the victory of Africa and the whole world. We congratulate our people.

Mayibuye Briefs

Preparations for the ANC National Youth Conference to be held in mid-August have reached fever-pitch. ANC Youth units throughout the world have already sent in their suggestions and papers on topics allocated them by the Youth Conference Preparatory Committee. The Units continue to hold meetings to review progress and set-backs in youth work both inside and outside the country, and to elect — in the most democratic manner delegates to the conference. Messages of solidarity have been received from fraternal national and international youth organisations, some of which will be represented at the Conference.

Meetings were held in many parts of South Africa to observe the 64th birthday of Comrade Nelson Mandela on July 18th. Participants in the meetings reiterated the popular demand for the unconditional release of Comrade Mandela and all other political prisoners and detainees. They also called for the commemoration of the 20th anniversary of Mandela's arrest, 5th August.

During the British Anti-Apartheid Movement's Week of Action (16 — 23 June) thousands of people held demonstrations in Britain in solidarity with the victimised Wilson-Rowntree workers. At the company's H/Q in York, all main trade unions at the Rowntree-Mackintosh plant participated in the demonstration to demand the reinstatement of their South African colleagues and the recognition of the SAAWU workers' committee. The students' unions at the Universities of Leicester, East Anglia and London have banned Rowntree products at their campuses.

OUR HEADS BOWED IN
SCENARIOS LEAVE AFTER
CERTAIN APARTHEID.





Trumpets, trombones and saxophones blasted to open the symposium on "Culture and Resistance" at the University of Botswana on July 4. The symposium was characterised by musical collaborations of Jonas Gwangwa, Dennis Mpale, Hugh Masekela playing with Wilson "King Force" Silgee (see picture, left). Piano virtuoso and ANC member, Abdullah Ibrahim, the first instalment of whose interview follows below, also featured prominently. This symposium, organised by the Botswana National Museum, was attended by artists and writers like Keorapetse Kgositsile, Benjy Francis, Lindiwe Mabuza, James Matthews, Richard Rive, Mongane Serote, Nadine Gordimer, and others, and attracted upwards of 900 cultural activists from inside the country. The role of the artist as a person committed to the popular struggle was emphasised in the deliberations. Throughout the symposium, the artists' collective perception of the evils of apartheid colonialism – and the need to destroy it – was manifest.

CULTURE AND RESISTANCE

I think the Festival and the Symposium were quite unique. The whole thing was an incredible success. It succeeded beyond our expectations. I don't know of anything else of this nature in the world. Normally, you find maybe a writers' symposium or a conference of photographers, but I've never known of such an event.

The theme of the symposium was "Culture and Resistance". What it set out to do was to make the artists aware of their role in the struggle.

The response at the symposium showed that the artists of our country are completely in accord with the view that the artist had a role to play in the struggle. The whole country is galvanised at all levels – the church level, artists and so on.

The festival was very timely. It turned out that the majority of the participants

already have the correct direction! There was complete sensitivity and understanding of the role of the artist within the struggle. And we feel that there will be on-going activities following up on this festival.

QUESTION: What united all these artists, and what Programmes of action have been drawn up for the future?

ANSWER: We have finally reached a stage where the artists realise that they are nothing special or apart from the rest of the people. This has been an ideology or

a way of thinking that is prevalent in the West that the artist or the sports-person must be removed from the normal day-to-day social problems of the people. These Western artists say that: 'I'm a musician, an artist, sports-person, so I cannot get involved in politics'. We think this is a lot of rubbish.

We have got an ongoing campaign, for example, to stop artists from coming to perform in South Africa – mostly American 'super-stars'. Within the country, people have taken the stand. This is one of the main themes that evolved out of the discussions at the symposium. People inside are saying that we don't want these artists to come here – which makes the overall

task easier.

The consciousness of the people within the country has developed. In fact, some of the groups wanted to come, but they were stopped dead in their tracks because they had played in concerts with these foreign artists – they are stained. The people decided, we don't want you here because you are involved with these foreign artists when we are trying to free ourselves from domination by cultural imperialism.

QUESTION: What are the reasons behind the boycott campaign?

ANSWER: The most subtle and, I think, the most vicious subjugation is from cultural imperialism. Physical imperialism or physical subjugation you can deal with immediately because it touches you physically. Cultural imperialism is very subtle because, whilst it goes hand in hand with the physical one, it is so subtle that, if you are not careful, you cannot realise that it is pinning you down.

The first thing that happens immediately you become its victim, is to feel that you are culturally inferior. The next step is that you do not really want to have anything to do with your own culture, and so you find yourself involved in American Yankee-doodle culture.

It is something that we have always resisted. It was difficult before because our scope was limited; and the record companies did everything to stop us from recording our music. They always wanted us to play some

SUPPORT PALESTINIANS!

The city of Beirut, once a bustling, lively capital of Lebanon, has been, since July 1981, a scene of unprecedented and blatant aggression which surpassed in its intensity and barbarity all the killing and destruction which the country has been subjected to for the last seven years.

A glimpse at the carnage wreaked by the Zionist warmongers aided by the US unfailingly leads to the conclusion that the Israelis are bent at emulating the nazis when it comes to mass extermination of innocent and unarmed men, women and children. Jan Sedlacek, a Czech, recalled how people were taken off to their deaths in nazi concentration camps and said: "I ask, how is it possible that this is being carried out by the same people or their relatives, who suffered so much under nazi rule . . .?"

The Israeli Chief of Military Intelligence was shameless when he gave his chilling

reply when asked why the Israelis were hitting populated areas: "Striking at civilians is intended to drive a wedge between them and the Palestinians."

Reduction of Cities

Notwithstanding all this – the reduction of cities to rubble, severed limbs and hundreds of unearched bodies lying buried under piles of shattered concrete, peasant women sitting disconsolately on the rubble of what used to be their homes – the PLO, the only voice of the displaced and dispossessed Palestinian people, is resolute in its defence of the Palesti-

nian people and in its justified war against the Zionists who are merely paid puppets of the Washington money-changers.

American propensity for treachery reached its height when there were reports that the Sixth Fleet was "ready to evacuate Palestinian forces" from Lebanon. As Amilcar Cabral once observed, "It is only in stories that you can cross a river on the back of the crocodile's friend."

The ANC supports the struggle of the Palestinian people and their vanguard movement, the PLO. The only thing that can bring about a lasting peace and an end to the Middle East conflagration is the Zionists' unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon and other Arab territories and the setting up of a Palestinian state.

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Remember Sekhukhuni I

ON August 13th, Year of Unity in Action, we commemorate the centenary of the death of King Sekhukhuni I, one of the greatest leaders of the wars of resistance against the colonial invaders.

On this day, we shall cast our eyes back to the valour, the resolution and the pride of the great fighters of old, and to the popular prowess that asserted itself in Thaba Mosega, Isandhlwana, Grahamstown, Thaba Bosigo. And in doing so, we shall, naturally, also ask ourselves the question, whether we are worthy of the noble status of being heirs of that mettle!

Proud Defender

King Sekhukhuni was a builder and proud defender of unity. At his post in Thaba Mosega were stationed some of the most able captains of King Cetshwayo, and maintained regular consultations with Kings Khama, Sandile, Nehemia, Ngungunyane and others to ensure a united response of all the people confronted

with, and subjugated under the criminal system of Portuguese, Boer and British colonialism in Southern Africa. Their efforts were not in vain, for, in 1912, when their immediate descendants converged on Mangaung, a historic victory in the path of unity was scored with the birth of the African National Congress, our vanguard movement leading the final assault against colonialism in our land. Led by the people's movement, the challenge that confronts us today is to broaden and deepen this front for mass action on all fronts, including the fight to destroy dummy institutions created by the regime with the aim of scattering and weakening the popular offensive — such as bantustans, Community Councils, the SAI Council and the President's Council.

When the soldiers of Umkhonto we Sizwe inflicted heavy losses on the combined forces of Smith and Vorster during the Wankie Campaign which started on August 13, 15 years ago, and in the attack on Voortrekkerhoogte on the night of the 12/13 of August last year, they showed, in the theatre of battle that we are worthy descendants of Sekhukhuni's brave fighters who made the adventurous Boer army led by President Burgers to run helter-skelter in August 1876. The expanding scope of military actions of the people's army — made possible by our support — constitutes our glorious emulation of those great soldiers who punished the hired mercenaries of the so-called Lydenburg Volunteer Corps, and forced the British invaders to beat a hasty retreat in many battles in 1878-'79.

King Sekhukhuni was loved and respected by all

patriots, and he drove tear into the hearts of his enemies. "We hear . . . from Durban of the death of one of the bravest of our former enemies, the Chief (Secoceni)", declared the jubilant editor of the pro-colonialist London Times in a long editorial on August 30th, 1882. This was after Sekhukhuni's capture in 1879 at the end of a fierce battle against a combined force of British and Boer armies and misguided African levies, and after his release from the Pretoria Prison where he was confined until 1881.

Temporarily Subdued

His people, as were the rest of the people in today's South Africa, were temporarily subdued, not defeated: As dawn starts to sound the knell on the passing night of brutal colonialism, the only tribute we can pay to King Sekhukhuni I and all our brave fore-fathers is to intensify the final assault for the seizure of power.

THE SPEAR LIVES ON!!

The Black Local Authorities Act has been brought into being when our resolve to bury the community council system has reached great heights. A last ditch attempt is being made to make our boycott not total in the so-called elections. We are expected to abandon our demand for a free and democratic municipal system in a free and non-racial S.A. and give the community councils a new lease of life.

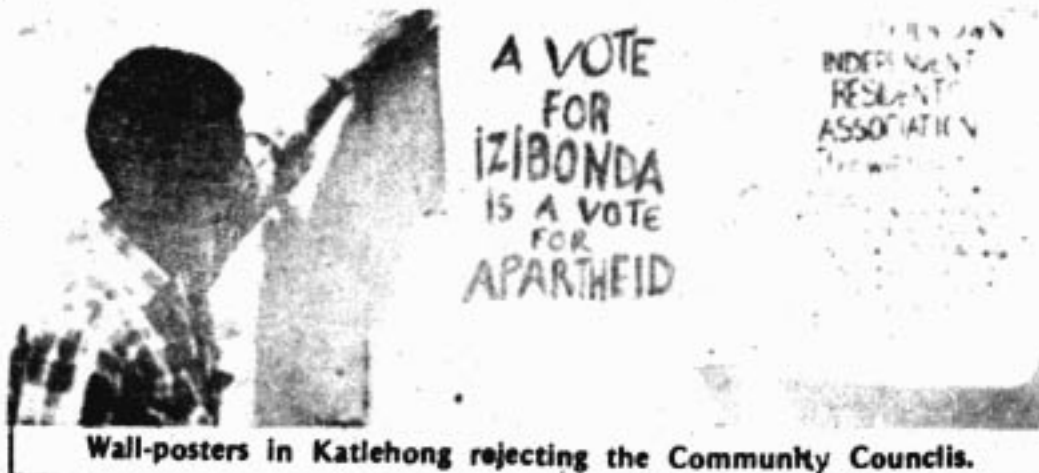
Apartheid Apologists

The racist press, puppet African bodies, the urban foundation, the P.F.P. and other apartheid apologists, are hailing certain provisions of this Act as a breakthrough in the political future of urban Africans.

These provisions are on "consultation" rather than ministerial over-riding powers, "discretion" of the puppet councillors in allowing state "officials" to attend their meetings, filling vacant posts, etc. These are hailed as measures which will make the councils independent-minded and to represent African aspirations. This cannot

No vote for IZIBONDA

DESPERATE attempts are being made all around us to give credibility to the community council system which we have unconditionally rejected.



Wall-posters in Katlehong rejecting the Community Councils.

happen as long as the municipalities remain an appendage of the apartheid system, and they have, of necessity to serve their masters in furthering our oppression.

This Act does not solve the question of funds for the councils. Our high rents and services, remain the main source of funds for these

councils and, of course, many more beerhalls and bottle-stores will be built to increase the profits they depend on.

The local authorities will, according to the Act, have freehold ownership on public land. This is expected to raise our hopes and make us believe that the era is near where our freehold rights will be restored. Speculation on

this, especially with the "elections" so near, can only serve the enemy. The very nature of apartheid oppression and exploitation, and its bantustan system, can never allow freehold ownership for us. While this Act is offered for the "elections", the Orderly Movement and Settlement of Black Persons and the Black Communities Development Bills are being reserved for after the 'elections', to increase the control and deportation of millions of Africans from the urban areas to the bantustans.

Katlehong, the only township not included in the present 'elections', set an example for us earlier this year. The people in their rejection of the community council system, used posters, stickers, wall-paintings, house-to-house organising, formed committees comprising women's, students' and workers' organisations, held open meetings when the only hall in the township was not allowed them. We can add much more to these methods; take our particular situations and evolve methods that will ensure maximum participation of the people in our boycott campaign.

Interview— Continued

'watered down form of their music which they said would be palatable, saleable. For example, with Mannenberg: we took the tape to five companies but they told us that the music can't sell. So we did it ourselves and made copies and played it in the record shops in Johannesburg. We sold 5 000 copies in one week over the country. The people endorsed the music. All that needs to be done is for the music to be made available to the people.

We have now reached a point where the people are saying they've had enough of all these lies from people who are helping to strengthen the oppressive system. As with the struggle on all its other levels, we can now say we really know who we are and we don't need anybody else to tell us.

100% of the people who come to South Africa, come because of money. The criterion for "success" in the West is money. It becomes more obvious when you look at the music scene. For example, only 4% of all the records sold in America are jazz records. The musicians hardly have any work. So, when such musicians get the offer to come to South Africa for vast sums of money they take it.

Now, the struggle is vast. We have taken on a task within and outside South Africa, not just to sensitize the people inside, but the whole world. We have, outside the country, formed a committee to mobilise for the cultural boycott. One of the biggest problems is talking to the Afro-American, to make him understand that it is not in his/her interests or in the interests of all struggling people everywhere, for them to go to South Africa. What we can do outside, therefore, is to mobilise, to talk to, the people.

What the artist can do inside is to say to the people that if these artists come into the country, we must refuse to be connected with them. This will go a long way in helping to effect the boycott. It is a difficult task, but all of us need to make some kind of sacrifice.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

Support SATS workers

WITH the signing of the agreement between the General Workers Union and the stevedoring employers in Durban on June 21st, GWU became the recognised representative of black stevedores in the four major harbours of South Africa.

The union, representing about 4,000 stevedores, is already recognised at the Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and East London docks.

Most Organised

Stevedores are the most organised workers in South Africa's ports. However, the General Workers' Union has been steadily organising other dockworkers, most of whom are employed by the state-owned South African Transport Services. These workers — like all other black employees of the South African Railways and Harbours (now SATS) — had no union of their own, and were forced to belong to an 'in-company' union, the Black Staff Association which has been correctly described as the "black personnel department of SATS, dressed up and registered as a trade union".

The dockworkers employed by SATS have thus been overworked, underpaid and subjected to various forms of ill-treatment. It came as no surprise that they responded enthusiastically to the organisational drive of the General Workers' Union, for they had realised from the example set by their stevedore brothers that it is only through organisation and struggle that they can improve their lot.

Sweetheart Union

Despite the fact that the majority of these workers have joined GWU, especially in East London, Port Elizabeth and Cape Town, the SATS employers refuse to negotiate with, and to recognise the workers' union. The fascist minister of transport, Schoeman, has gone on record as saying that the state-owned company will not recognise "an outside union" as long as he is minister. SATS General Manager, Loubser dismissed all possibilities of negotiations with the General Workers Union and added that SATS will continue to consult with the BSA, "our sweetheart union"!

workers, the only solution is to act in unity in defence of our right to belong to a union of our own choice. The General Workers' Union has refused to submit to the harassment of the SATS exploiters, and should receive the support of all black workers and the rest of the oppressed people. The treatment the union and its members are being subjected to, should be publicised through the length and breadth of our country and abroad. The International Transport Workers Federation, representing hundreds of thousands of transport workers throughout the world, has already pledged to undertake sympathy action if the dispute leads to strike action.

The General Workers Union must lead the community in forming solidarity committees, organising solidarity meetings and other actions, to help pressurise the SATS exploiters and to strengthen the actions we will have to undertake if the SATS management continues to pay a deaf ear to our just demand.

In response to GWU's organisational success, the regime has unleashed a reign of terror against SATS employees. In Port Elizabeth and East London, many of those who have joined GWU have been arrested for questioning, threatened with dismissals, enticed with money to resign from the union, and the chairman of GWU workers' committee in PE has been fired. In Cape Town, railway police have started blocking GWU shop stewards from collecting union dues.

"Labour Reform"

The policy pursued by the state-owned company has once more given the lie to the regime's claims of "labour reform". The regime prefers that we stay unorganised, or belong to its "sweetheart unions" so the exploiters can overwork and underpay us at will. This is more so in state-owned enterprises such as SATS, ISCOR, ESCOM and so on, which are central to the functioning of its exploitative economy and which ensure huge profits for the regime to channel to its fascist army, police and administrative structures.

As for the dockworkers and the rest of the railway

UNITY IN ACTION



1912 ● 1982



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UMKHONTO WE SIZWE, THE PEOPLE'S ARMY

Radio Tanzania

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1035 KHz, Medium wave; 9685 KHz, 31mb shortwave
Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays at 8.15pm (S. A. time)
Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays at 6.15am (S. A. time)

Madagascar

6135 KHz, 49mb shortwave. Monday — Saturday 7—9pm
Sundays 7-8.30pm.

Ethiopia

9545 KHz, 31mb shortwave; 9.30 — 10.00pm daily.

Lusaka

9580 KHz, 31mb shortwave, Monday-Friday 7.00 — 7.45pm,
Wednesday 9.30 — 10.00pm, Thursday 10.05 — 10.30pm,
Friday 10.30 — 11.00pm, Saturday & Sunday 7—8pm,
Sundays 8—8.45am, 25mb, 11880KHz

Luanda

11955 KHz, 25mb and 9535 KHz, 31mb
7.30pm (S. A. time)