

Like all the other Congressites our late Chief withstood the powerful pressures exerted by the state on all the accused to 'disown' or 'denounce' Communism throughout the long years of the Treason Trial.

Likewise, he recognised the unique contribution Communists had made in the ANC and other sections of the alliance as well as in the liberation press, and respected them for it. He was attacked for this by elements within the ANC and outside it, and gave a forceful reply on many occasions, including the celebrated articles written for the Natal journal *Indian Opinion*. He wrote:

People seem to be alarmed that there may be a so-called right wing, centre and left wing in the Congress. To me it is a healthy sign...

No slanders or belittlement can ever efface the tremendous contribution of this great and good man whose memory will always live in the hearts of our people.

His loss is a heavy one and will be sorely felt, for as the South African Communist Party wrote in its message of condolence to the ANC:

It is a tragedy for our people that he did not live to occupy the position, for which he was so eminently qualified, as the first Head of State of free South Africa.

But in a deeper sense, Chief Lutuli can never be lost to us. His spirit, his ideas and his achievements live on. They are in the minds and the hearts of our heroic freedom fighters as they engage the enemy, today in Zimbabwe, tomorrow within the Republic itself. They will be with us after victory when our people commence to build the fair edifice of free South Africa of which Albert John Lutuli dreamed and for which he lived and died.

The greatest monument to his memory will be to hasten the winning of that victory and the building of that edifice. To that the nation must re-dedicate itself.

DOCUMENT 123:

Article in underground leaflet 'Freedom' issued by the South African Communist Party in November 1967 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Russian Revolution.

November 7th 1967 was a day that was joyfully celebrated all over the world by millions of workers, peasants and freedom-loving people. It was the fiftieth anniversary of the great socialist revolution in Russia; when led by V.I. Lenin and the Communist Party, the working people rose up and put an end to the oppressive rule and robbery of the rich capitalists and landlords.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE!

A new government was set up of Soviets – workers' and peasants' councils.

Following the inspiring teachings of Marx and Lenin the Soviet people set out to

build, for the first time in the world, a new kind of society – SOCIALISM.

The factories, farms and other means of production were taken over from the rich by the people.

A great drive was begun, to build industry and agriculture; to raise the standards of living and education and to improve the conditions of work and life for the people.

Fifty years of socialism have completely transformed the lives of millions of people.

Before 1917, the old Russia, like South Africa today, was the home of poverty and exploitation for the masses. Like this country today there was harsh national and racial oppression, police terror, no freedom for the people. It was a land of backwardness, ignorance and illiteracy.

Now the Soviet Union is a great modern power, leading the world in many fields of scientific, educational and other achievements, where all the many national groups enjoy complete freedom and equal rights.

WHAT IT MEANT TO THE WORLD

Before the 1917 revolution the whole world was dominated by a handful of imperialist powers, like Britain, the USA, Germany and France. By force and terror they had seized whole Continents – Africa, Asia and South America, which they ruled, enslaved and robbed.

The Great October Socialist Revolution meant that for the first time there was a breakthrough in the monopoly of the world by capitalism and imperialism. The Soviet Union challenged the very foundations of imperialism and colonialism. It championed the right of the oppressed people everywhere to independence, the right of all nations to rule themselves and decide their own future.

The achievements and ideas of the Russian Revolution inspired hundreds of millions of oppressed people in the world to unite and fight for their own freedom.

WORLD WAR II

In the Second World War, the Soviet people and their heroic army bore the main brunt of Hitler's attack. They played the main part in crushing the fascists and saving the world from Nazi domination.

This victory led to great changes in the world. In 14 countries, led by their own Communist Parties, the people overthrew the capitalists and took the socialist road. Today one third of the world's population from Czechoslovakia, in Central Europe, to China, Vietnam and Korea in Asia, and Cuba in America, live in socialist countries.

AFRICA AND ASIA

After the war, hundreds of millions of people in Asia and Africa rose up in rebel-

lion, refusing to be ruled any longer by foreigners. They knew they could rely on the support and assistance of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

But the struggle is not over. It is still going on. The imperialists, led by the United States, are trying their best to bring back the bad old days of colonial slavery.

In *Vietnam* the American imperialists are engaged in brutal aggression and mass murder to enslave the people.

In *Southern Africa*, backed by the imperialists, the fascist, anti-African regimes of Vorster, Ian Smith and Salazar of Portugal are viciously oppressing the people, jailing, torturing and murdering our leaders.

But the people are fighting back and winning.

The small Vietnamese nation is bravely standing up to the American army of half a million troops, armed with the latest horror weapons of bombing planes, napalm, gas, chemicals to kill women and children in the villages. They are fighting back and beating the Yankee invaders. In Mozambique and Angola African freedom fighters are standing up to the Portuguese troops and winning more and more areas for African rule. In Zimbabwe (Rhodesia), fighting is taking place between the armed and heroic young men of ZAPU and the African National Congress of South Africa, joined in a fighting alliance, and on the other side, the security forces of the illegal Smith regime, backed by Vorster's brutes of the SA Police whom we know so well.

The war is beginning for the liberation of our country.

The people of Vietnam will win. The people of Angola, Mozambique, and South West Africa will win. We shall win. Our cause is just. It is supported by the workers, peasants and freedom-loving people of the whole world, including the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

We South Africans join in the world-wide celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the Russian Socialist Revolution. It marked the beginning of a process that will not stop until the whole world is free, including our own beloved South Africa, now ruled by white racist and fascist thugs.

The South African Communist Party says:

LONG LIVE THE SOVIET UNION!

DOWN WITH IMPERIALISM AND WHITE SUPREMACY!

LONG LIVE THE SOUTH AFRICAN REVOLUTION!

DOCUMENT 124:

'The Czechoslovakian Crisis', statement by the Central Committee of the South African Communist Party, July 29, 1968.

The South African Communist Party is gravely concerned over the turn of events in Czechoslovakia. We fully respect the right of our comrades of the fraternal Communist Party of Czechoslovakia to take radical measures to correct bureaucratic distortions, economic blunders, and wrong methods of ensuring Party leadership. Indeed, our observations showed us that such measures were