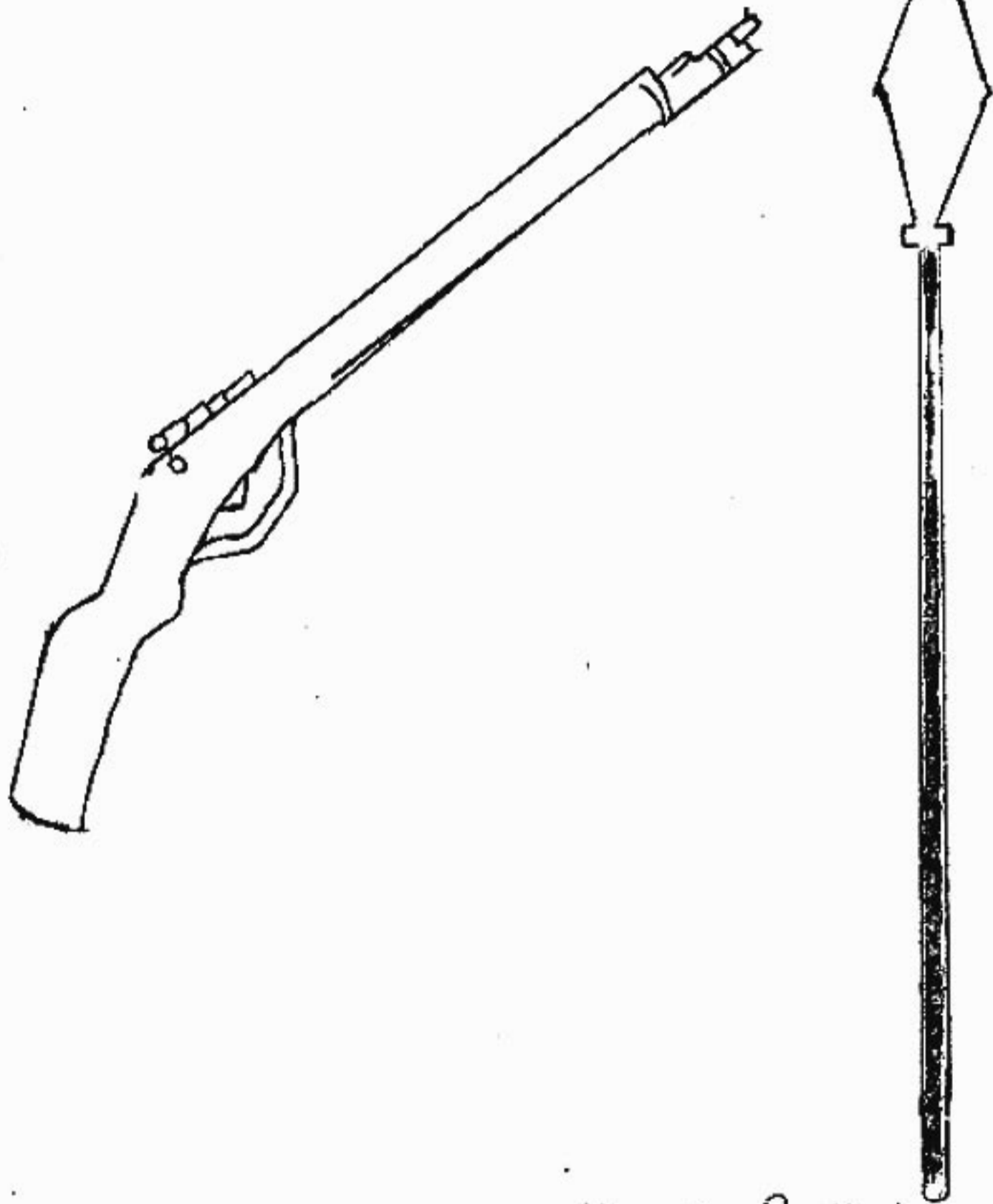


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News Bulletin
A. N. C of (South Africa)
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BRITAIN FACES A CRISIS.

The apparent superficial prosperity of certain imperialist countries notably the United States and West Germany is mistaken to mean that capitalism has succeeded in solving its inherent ills and can survive for ever. What is forgotten is that the seeming success is bought at the expense of putting the economy on a virtual war footing. The last United States budget set aside almost fifty five percent for armaments-"defence"-as it is euphemistically called. This kind of pseudo-solution can not last as is, in fact, evidenced by the regular minor crises that afflict the United States economy.

Right now Britain is in the rather pathetic position of being the weakest link in the imperialist chain. There was a time when the British "Welfare State" was put forward with loud fanfare as a compromise between capitalism and socialism or as the British Labourites put it-a "taming of the capitalist monster". Genuine socialists correctly pointed out that the "welfare state" was a piece of duplicity designed to deceive the workers. The welfare state has certainly not solved the problems of the chronically ailing British economy. For the last ten years and more Britain has been undergoing crisis after crisis. It does not matter whether Labour or the Conservatives are in power - the sterling crisis persists. And this is inevitable for neither party is seeking real solutions to the inner conflicts which are responsible for British problems.

Ever since it came into power, Wilson's government has pawned the British economy to international bankers in return for support in propping up the pound. The demands of these bankers, whose only interest is profit became increasingly difficult to meet. Wilson had accepted the "credit squeeze", the "wage pause", "controlled unemployment" "labour mobility" etc. and faced more and more criticism from his own party. Very early on, a Cabinet Minister, Frank Cousins, had resigned on this very issue. The latest demands were absolutely intolerable and even Wilson could not accept them. In return for saving sterling again the bankers demanded even greater deflation and a further turn of the credit squeeze screw. Instead of accepting this Wilson decided to devalue the British pound.

This in effect means British exports will be cheaper on the world markets while imports will be more costly. As Britain is a large importer of foodstuff, including vegetable, fruit, meat, etc. the cost of these items to the consumer will rise - the cost of living for ordinary Britons will go up. At once, one can see that this is thus no lasting solution. Like other solutions this one is also at the expense of the workers who will be hardest hit.

Furthermore, sterling devaluation has created problems for other countries. There is no doubt, pressure on their currencies will rise.

We/.....

We wonder how long they will be able to survive before they, too, are forced to devalue.

Incidentally, this latest move by the British Government revealed clearly that the Commonwealth is dead. Of course, the skeleton still continues to strut around pretending to be the real thing and Commonwealth Heads of State, continue to meet from time to time but this is more in obeisance to the past than anything else. When last has a commonwealth conference taken a meaningful decision? When Britain devalued sterling twenty years ago almost every commonwealth country followed suit. But the latest move was followed by only those countries whose economies are still directly tied to sterling.

As His Excellency, Mr. Ali Simbule, Zambian ambassador to Britain rightly said, the British bulldog is senile and decadent. It is also toothless.

* * * * *

NEWS FROM THE WAR FRONT.

This week we have to bring to the notice of our readers the situation that the African National Congress of South Africa faces in the war zone.

We have consistently avoided regarding the independent African republic of Botswana as forming part of the hostile territory to be traversed by our militants on their way to war in South Africa. We have exercised a great deal of patience and understanding of the difficulties that Botswana has to face vis-a-vis the fascist Verster regime.

We wish to begin by emphasising a point that might be self-evident although it is often forgotten. We are fighting for the emancipation of the oppressed people of South Africa. We cannot and shall not abandon our position as freedom-fighters and furthermore we shall not abdicate our duty to meet and repel fascist violence by revolutionary armed struggle. To achieve our objectives we shall not stop carrying arms to be used against the enemy of both Botswana and the indigenous African people of South Africa.

As Rhodesia is part of the enemy territory through which our militants pass, we shall fight there on our way to South Africa whatever the frightened arm-chair critics say of our valiantly fought battles.

But/.....

But we must now give our readers a little factual information on actual happenings in the war zone. Seven of ZAPU/ANC militants have been sentenced to death in Rhodesia and another seven have had a token portion of their heavy sentences set aside in Botswana. Next week we shall publish our opinion on the Freedom-Fighters condemned to death in Rhodesia.

Seventeen of our Freedom-Fighters arrested in Botswana have appealed against the severity of the sentences imposed on them. It must be remembered that those men were on their way to South Africa to fight the enemy. They strayed across the Botswana border in their efforts to reach home. When they noticed that certain "security police" were hunting for them, they immediately prepared an ambush. The "security police" were caught in that ambush and their lives were saved by the fact that they identified themselves as Botswana police. Our men then surrendered their weapons, ammunition, personal effects etc.

When they had done this our militants were placed under arrest and maltreated by the very police whose lives they had spared moments ago. This is a bitter lesson. It raises very sharply the question: how long must we accept this type of treatment? Africa and the world must realise the difficulties that our militants have to face on their way to the battlefield. Human tolerance and restraint have their own limitations under trying circumstances. All we know is that our enemies are the white minority racist regimes of Vorster, Smith and Salazar. We shall fight them wherever we meet their fascist forces. Those who stand in our way must not expect us to abandon our tasks and duties. Towards the realisation of those national tasks briefly stated above, we request the release of all Freedom-Fighters imprisoned in Botswana.

The following extract is part of a report sent to us:

"Seven Freedom-Fighters appealed to the High Court sitting in Gaborone yesterday against sentences passed by the Subordinate Court in Francistown. They had pleaded guilty to various counts of possessing and importing a variety of automatic and semi-automatic weapons and ammunition into Botswana without authorisation. Chief Justice Laurence Weston modified their sentences slightly in their favour.

"The first appellant James E. April (27) of Cape Town maintained that his sentence of 18 months in prison and a fine of R50 (£25) or six months in default was too severe. He asked for leniency because he co-operated with Police and at no time tried to deny or hide his guilt. He assured the Court that he bore no ill-feeling towards Botswana and intended no harm to anyone in the country.

"The/.....

"The Court upheld the sentence in the main but set aside his fine of R50 (£25) or six months in default on the basis that, while the violations were serious and received a heavy sentence, the Magistrate should have taken into account the fact that the accused pleaded guilty. The Chief Justice cited a recent English case in point.

"The second appeal was by six South Africans who had received sentences of 3 years in prison and R50 (£25) or six months in default. The appellants were:

Donald	Sebekwa	age	23
Alphas	Matlapa	"	23
Castro	Dolo	"	50
Jackson	Mayibuye	"	27
John	Dube	"	28
Petrus	Zulu	"	46

"They entered Botswana at Maitengwe with a number of automatic weapons, hand-grenades, and considerable ammunition. They had received the maximum sentences in the circumstance.

"Their appeal against sentence only rested on the fact that they had co-operated with the Police and intended no harm to Botswana. "We were passing through Botswana to fight apartheid in South Africa," said one.

"The Chief Justice stated that while he believed that the appellants had no ill-intentions to this country, they had nevertheless committed a serious offence by bringing an arsenal of weapons and hand-grenades into Botswana without authority. He pointed out that the prohibition of these arms is absolute regardless of the intention of the bearer, and must be maintained in the interest of good government.

"The Court did however, accept that the appellants co-operated with the Police and pleaded guilty. It accordingly set aside the fine of R50 (£25) or six months in default while upholding the term of 3 years' imprisonment. Mr. J. Walker appeared for the State."

These men are Freedom-Fighters - not criminals. They should be released. Mercenaries who have plagued Africa and the Congo have been granted safe passage to wherever they want to go. The O.A.U. has put its most senior officials and some highly-respected Heads of State to the task of sending the mercenaries out of Africa and rehabilitating the African hangers-on who supported the mercenaries. If all this is possible, would we be asking for too much by appealing to the O.A.U. to take similar if not more rigorous action to rescue Freedom-Fighters from the dungeons into which they are thrown. We hope that it is not too late to do something to save these men whose only guilt is their determination to enter South Africa and abolish apartheid by force of arms.

We also want to regain our national independence and should not be stopped in independent Africa on our way to carrying out this sacred duty.

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THE ROLE OF JAPAN

Representatives of some African countries at the United Nations recently attacked "certain Asian countries" for trading with South Africa. We presume that they referred mainly to Japan with its ever-extending trade links with South Africa. From the context of their criticism it would appear that Japan was being attacked because it was a non-white nation trading with a white oppressor regime.

It would appear from this attack that there is a fundamental misunderstanding of the nature of racism and a lack of proper assessment of Japan's international economic role. The roots of racism whether in Africa, the United States or elsewhere are basically economic. Racism provided and continues to provide an ideological framework for economic oppression and exploitation. When appeals are directed to the countries of the 'third world to unite for their liberation from imperialist domination it is not only or merely because the peoples of these countries are non-white. More specifically it is because these are the countries in which colonial plunder ran rampant and in which neo-colonialism and imperialism are still directing influences.

This is not to say that it is wrong to point out that the oppressed are Black and to call upon them to organise and struggle as such. Nor is it wrong to attack the Bandas, the Jonathans, the Syngman Rhees, or the Kys. These stooges have usurped power in former colonial and semi-colonial countries in which the masses fought and sacrificed for their liberation. The Bandas, etc., have betrayed the struggle of the masses.

The position of Japan is different. In the non-white world, which has been subjugated and humiliated for centuries, Japan has been a singular exception. Japan was never colonised. On the contrary, Japan has herself been a coloniser, an imperialist power. The activities of the Japanese Government in the Far East; its attacks on China; its rivalry with the Czarist Russia; its demand for a fair share of the "spoils" in Asia vis-a-vis the other imperialist powers; its part in the Second World War; all this characterises Japan as an imperialist country.

Therefore when Japan is attacked it must be from a different vantage point than the attacks made on the Bandas and people of that ilk. Like the United States, Britain, France, etc., Japan must be attacked as an imperialist power which abets and profits from economic exploitation.

And in the Southern African context there is much to criticise Japan for. Since the Second World War Japanese trade with South Africa has multiplied rapidly until today it runs into millions of pounds. Japan exports to South Africa large quantities of Textiles, clothing, cameras, radios, motor vehicles, etc., and imports mainly base metals and minerals.

Iron ore/...

Iron ore exports from South Africa (including Swaziland and Lesotho) already amount to 3.7 million tons. Recently Dr. Kruger of the South African Iron & Steel Corporation signed a contract to supply another 500,000 tons of iron ore while an offer to supply another 10 million tons a year is being studied in Japan. The discussions are being held with JIATA which represents all Japanese buyers.

Also like other imperialist powers, Japan has no qualms about dealing with Portugal. The Japanese holding, SUMITOMO, has invested 18 million pounds in Mozambique. The purpose of this exercise is the exploration of iron ore deposits in the Mirrote area. It is expected that exports to Japan from here will quickly reach 5 million tons a year, the reserves being estimated at 360 million tons.

Thus in common with other imperialist powers, Japan has a big stake in Southern Africa and has an interest in maintaining the status quo.

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MALAWI AND SOUTHERN AFRICA.

More and ever more, Malawi is becoming a client state of South Africa. The policies of the renegade, Banda, have steadily led to this state of affairs. We now have the tragic situation that an independent African State whose people struggled and died for their liberation from colonialism are being gradually handed over to a new kind of servility. And it is an even more vile kind of servility in that the intended new masters are not only exploiters but racists of the most rabid kind.

Recently Banda appointed his first ambassador to South Africa. In deference to the wishes of the fascist-racists of Pretoria he is to be white. But even worse is the fact that this new ambassador was a high ranking civil servant in the pre-independence colonial administration. With such qualifications it is doubtful if his sympathies lie with the African Revolution.

South Africa has already commenced supplying Malawi with 'development aid. Dr. P.S. Rautenbach, Resources and Planning Advisor to Prime Minister Vorster, and W.F. Visagie, staff member of the Resources and Planning Council recently visited Malawi. Both these men are high up in the government hierarchy and presumably ardent supporters of the government's policies of racism. It is men of this kind on whom Banda seems to be relying. News has also come through that a former general manager of the South African Development Corporation, A.C. Cornish-Bowden, has been appointed Director of the Malawi Development Corporation. To cap it all he was appointed on the advice of Dr. van Eck, chairman of the Industrial Development Corporation, to whom Banda turned in search of a suitable candidate.

Banda's treachery is absolutely blatant. He makes no attempt at disguising his intention of selling the African people down the river. Instead he flaunts his betrayal and insults the leaders and people of Africa. The people will never allow such a renegade to go on humiliating them forever. The signs are already there - Banda will go and his will be a most ignominious departure.

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THE A.N.C. OF SOUTH AFRICA IN ASIA

The following report is a summary of the proceedings at an inaugural ceremony to establish an African National Congress of South Africa permanent mission in India on November 14, 1967. Among the liberation movements, the ceremony was attended by representatives of the Zimbabwe African Peoples' Union (Z.A.P.U.), the Idea Popular de la Guinea Ecuatorial (I.P.G.E. - Rio Muni and Fernando Po), the Movimento Popular de Libertacao de Angola (M.P.L.A.), the Frente de Libertacao de Mocambique (FRELIMO), and the Partido Africano de Independencia de Guine e Cabo-Verde (P.A.I.G.C.).

Comrade George Bandzo Nyandoro, Secretary-General of ZAPU was chairman and in his opening remarks gave a brilliant analysis of the struggle against white minority dictatorship in Southern Africa. He stressed that the opening of an ANC office in India marked a milestone in the history of South Africa. Comrade Nyandoro recalled that historically, South Africa is the country where the immortal Gandhiji started the Indian struggle for independence relying on the power of Satyagraha. He then reviewed the joint-military struggle waged by ZAPU/ANC militants in Zimbabwe and declared our determination to intensify guerrilla action against the white fascists in Southern Africa. Comrade Nyandoro's speech was punctuated with intermittent and hearty applause by all those present.

After the Chairman's opening remarks followed an introductory speech by Shri K. D. Malaviya, a veteran freedom fighter who for some time represented India at the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Secretariat in Cairo.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs gave the inaugural address. Then fraternal messages of solidarity from different personalities, organisations and the diplomatic corps were read. Messages were received from the following:-

1. Her Excellency, the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati I. Gandhi
2. His Excellency, the President of India, Dr. Zakir Husain.
3. Shri K. Kamaraj, President, Indian National Congress.
4. Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, Speaker, Lok Sabha.
5. Shri C.N. Annadurai, Chief Minister, Govt., of Madras.
6. Shri Mohan Lal Sukhadia, Chief Minister, Govt. of Rajasthan.
7. Shri Ajoy Kumar Mukherji, Chief Minister, Govt. of West Bengal.
8. Shri Satish Loomba, Secretary, All-India Trade Union Congress.
9. Shri V.V. Dravid, President, Indian National Trade Union Congress.
10. Shri Triloki Singh, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)
11. Shri Prem Bhasin, General Secretary, Praja Socialist Party.
12. Indian Progressive Writers' Association.
13. Shri B.N. Ganguli, Vice Chancellor, University of Delhi

Among/.....

Among those who attended the inaugural ceremony, several important speeches were made by the following:-

1. Dr. Yusuf Dadoo
2. His Excellency, the High Commissioner for Uganda.
3. Dr. Cheddi Jagan of Guyana.
4. Dr. Vassos Lyssarides of Cyprus.
5. Shri V.K. Krishna Menon.
6. Dr. Singh on behalf of the Indian Afro-Asian Solidarity Association.
7. Deputy-Secretary General of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation
8. Secretary of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Organisation of the USSR.

The vote of thanks was proposed by the Chief Representative of the A.N.C. (S.A.) in the India Office, Comrade Alfred B. Nzo. A film show on the Congo (Kinshasa) was postponed to a later date.

In view of the importance of the messages of solidarity received from Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, Dr. Zakir Husain, President of India and Comrade Oliver R. Tambo, Acting President of the African National Congress of South Africa, we publish the full texts of their contributions.

MESSAGE OF THE PRIME MINISTER, SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI
TO THE INAUGURAL CEREMONY OF THE OPENING IN INDIA OF
THE EXTERNAL OFFICE OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS
(ANC) ON NOVEMBER 14, 1967.

India's part in the struggle against racialism in Africa and Asia and particularly against the reprehensible policy of apartheid pursued by the South African Government, began long before we achieved our independence. We have consistently fought this evil at the United Nations and at all other international forums. We have made common cause with progressive people all over the world in denouncing the inhuman principles on which apartheid is based as being an affront to the dignity of Man. In protest against the inhuman behaviour of the South African Government we decided to withdraw our representative from Pretoria as far back as 1946 and soon after that we took steps to cut all relations with that country, including trade, and have firmly adhered to that position.

The racist Government in South Africa has treated with disdain the numerous declarations and resolutions passed by the United Nations calling upon it to abandon its policies. The South African Government has extended the scope of apartheid rule beyond the borders of South Africa itself to the territory of South West Africa. They have made ineffective the imposition of sanctions by the United Nations against the rebel regime in Rhodesia.

It is/.....

It is necessary, therefore, for the struggle against apartheid to be continued and intensified in all countries of the world which cherish the principles of respect for freedom and human rights. It is in these circumstances that we greatly welcome the opening of an office of the African National Congress in India - the first in Asia. On this occasion I send my greetings and good wishes for success in the tasks that lie ahead.

INDIRA GANDHI.

NEW DELHI,
November 13, 1967.

Message from H.E. the President of India, Dr. Zakir Husain
at the Inaugural Ceremony of the India Office of the
African National Congress of South Africa
in New Delhi on November 14, 1967

" I am very happy to learn that the African National Congress is opening an external office in India to carry on the noble struggle against racialism and apartheid in South Africa. This is the first such office in the East and I am confident that it will play a significant role in seeking active support from all the sister nations of Asia in the campaign to eradicate oppression and apartheid in Southern Africa.

We in India have always felt very strongly about the evil doctrine of apartheid which offends against the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Its continuance is an insult to human personality. The Father of our Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, launched his campaign of passive resistance against this evil and India had taken up the issue of Apartheid in South Africa at the inaugural Session of the United Nations. I have no doubt that the people of this country will continue to lend massive support morally and materially to the noble task of the African National Congress in fighting apartheid and the rule of racist white minority regimes in South Africa and elsewhere in Southern Africa. I wish you godspeed in your endeavours. "

Message from/...

Message from the Acting President of the African
National Congress (South Africa)

Mr. O. R. TAMBO

AT THE Inaugural Ceremony of the India Office
of the AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS
in New Delhi on November 14th. 1967
delivered by Dr. YUSUF DADGO

.....

Distinguished guests and friends,

This is the first office of the African National Congress to be opened in Asia. As such it symbolises a further cementing of the bonds of fraternity and common purpose between the peoples of the two Continents who have struggled so bitterly and long against imperialism and colonialism, and who have, through the movement of Afro-Asian solidarity and at the United Nations made profound and positive contributions towards the progress of the whole of mankind.

The gigantic upheavals of the peoples of these two continents, especially since the end of the second world war, have been directed not only towards the conquest of national independence, but also at eliminating the consequences of colonialism, the massive poverty, backwardness, destruction of indigenous cultures and societies that arose from generations of foreign misrule, robbery and exploitation. We have fought and still are fighting to assert the right of the peoples of Asia and Africa to play their full part in deciding the destinies of the peoples of this planet, and winning a world without poverty, without racial arrogance and without oppression.

It is true that, at tremendous cost and sacrifice, our people have won most important gains within the past two decades. Today nearly all of Asia is ruled by Asians, and most of Africa is governed by independent African states.

However it would clearly be erroneous to conclude from these resounding victories that our struggle is won and over, or even that the gains we have already achieved are final and secure. If modern history has taught us anything, it is that our struggle is one, indivisible and interdependent. So long as imperialism and colonialism dominate or intervene anywhere in the "third world", so long is the freedom of every one of us conditional and limited.

The imperialist aggression rages in Vietnam, laying waste the whole country south and north and wiping out thousands of people including whole families, is a war against the whole of Asia, against every Asian - and for that matter, every African.

So/.....

So long as Portuguese fascism and local white minorities dominate the whole Southern area of our continent, no one in Africa can really be free, and no part of our continent is in every sense independent.

In a broader sense; of course, as long as one part of mankind remains in bondage, so long will human freedom and the very peace of the world remain uncertain. And none should understand this truth better than our fraternal peoples of Africa and Asia. We have bought this understanding at heavy price, in bitter experience.

But it is that very understanding which sustains us of the African National Congress in our hard and severely demanding struggle, for we know that we are not alone in an isolated revolt; that our struggle is a part of a world-wide revolution which unites Africa and Asia and all oppressed and freedom-loving peoples of the world. It is with this understanding that we see the deep significance of our opening of this African National Congress office in the heart of Asia.

Distinguished guests and friends,

We believe it is entirely fitting that this, our first permanent ANC mission in Asia, is being established here, in the Republic of India.

There are long-established historical links between India and South Africa. The first Dutch settlement in our country, over 300 years ago, was established as a refreshment-station for ships - the "half-way house to India".

There are five hundred thousand people of Indian descent in South Africa, mostly members of the working class. As you of course are aware, like the African majority of 13 millions and the 1½ million Coloured people of mixed ancestry, they are victims of the atrocious and systematic race discrimination, designed to degrade, impoverish and humiliate the non-white majority and to fortify the wealth, privileges and arrogance of the 3½ million white population.

Both our people and yours take legitimate pride in the magnificent and stubborn struggles which our South African Indian community have for so long and so valiantly waged for human rights and dignity, for the equality of status and opportunity which is rightly theirs as citizens of our country.

It is well known to you all that the earliest struggles of this community were inspired and led, more than 70 years ago, by the immortal Mahatma Gandhi at the time when he was living in South Africa. This high-principled movement of resistance not only

added/.....

added a glorious chapter to the history of the liberation movement of our country in the struggle against racial discrimination and white domination, it also proved a school and a testing ground for the future mobilisation of the masses in India itself for the attainment of the independence of this great sub-continent.

Over the years the South African Indian Congress, established first by Gandhiji in 1894 as the Natal Indian Congress has grown in experience, stature and maturity. Under the leadership of far-sighted patriots like Yusuf Dadoo, Monty Naicker, Nana Sita and many others, it enlarged its horizons from that of an organisation seeking to establish the just claims of a minority, to embrace the lofty aim of winning, in alliance with the African National Congress and other like-minded organisations, a new South Africa ensuring freedom and equality for all our peoples. In the words of the Freedom Charter, the common programme of the ANC, the SAIC and all partners of the Congress Alliance, "our country will never be prosperous or free until all our people live in brotherhood, enjoying equal rights and opportunities".

In the great Defiance Campaign of 1952-53, thousands of volunteers of both the ANC and the SAIC deliberately flouted unjust apartheid laws and courted arrest. As was correctly observed by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:

In South Africa the question of Indians, though important to us, we have deliberately allowed to become a secondary issue to the larger question in South Africa of racial discrimination. As you know, the opposition resistance movement there is far more African than Indian; the leadership is African - we want it to be so.

(Talk to British journalists in London:

June 8 1953.)

We are particularly conscious and appreciative of the consistent and powerful support for our cause rendered by the Government of India ever since that great country attained independence.

At the United Nations and other international forums, India representatives have tirelessly exposed the evils of apartheid and white supremacy and championed the rights not only of our Indian-descended compatriots, but of the African victims of colonialism as well. We have not forgotten how in retaliation for her vigorous advocacy of our cause, the then Indian representative at the General Assembly Mrs. Pandit, was grossly vilified as a "coolie maid" by the then South African Foreign Minister, Mr. Eric Louw.

By/.....

By breaking off diplomatic and economic relations with South Africa in 1946 India became a pioneer of what has today grown into a powerful world movement for sanctions and a complete diplomatic, political, commercial, cultural and general isolation and boycott of the fascist apartheid regime. Most of the world realises that this virus of racialism is a menace to the United Nations and to world peace. Again to cite the late Jawaharlalji:

Racial discrimination in South Africa is a grave threat to world peace and if it is not ended quickly, the entire African continent will go up in flames (Public meeting, Lucknow, Nov. 22, 1952).

Accordingly the General Assembly called upon all member states to break off relations, diplomatic, commercial and otherwise, to isolate the virus and quarantine its carrier. Most UN members have since observed this resolution and followed India's lead by breaking off their relations with South Africa. It is deeply to be regretted that South Africa's main trading partners, however, Britain, the US and other imperialist countries, have refused to honour the UN decision, placing profit before their solemn international obligations, thereby endangering the UN and the cause of world peace, and strengthening the vicious apartheid regime.

We of the African National Congress, representing the great majority of the population of our country, have always welcomed and encouraged every move towards the international isolation and boycotting of our oppressors. They do not represent the country and its people; to maintain diplomatic contacts with them is to befriend our enemies and to estrange the friendship of our people.

On the other hand, we are in no sense isolationists ourselves. We seek, and in the future when our movement is victorious and our people are masters in our own house, we shall certainly seek to strengthen links of all kinds with the people of all countries, for our common welfare and the cause of world peace.

In this sense, the establishment of our permanent mission here in India is an event of profound historical importance, for it looks forward to the time our mission here will be able to take its rightful place as the representative of a free and democratic South Africa.

But at the present time, its function will have to be of a different kind, for our struggle lies still before us. We should have no illusions that that struggle will be formidable and bloody.

The neo-Nazi regime in South Africa has left the people no

alternative/.....

alternative but to embark on a sustained revolutionary struggle of armed resistance to overthrow it.

The world knows well how long and how patiently we sought to improve our condition of subjection by every possible form of non-violent struggle. Within the country our people year after year attempted to bring about democratic changes in repeated and sustained campaigns of resistance, strikes, boycotts, and similar methods. At the same time international opinion was aroused in an unprecedentedly universal series of condemnations and protests, appeals and exhortations, to denounce this moral abomination of lunatic racism. All to no avail. Arrogantly defying world opinion, the South African government has year by year passed more stringent legislation. Our organisations have been outlawed. Our leaders have been murdered, imprisoned or exiled. Apartheid legislation has been multiplied and intensified to an unendurable degree.

At the same time, equipped and financed by the imperialist powers the South African government has substantially built up its army and police to maintain its rule of the gun. Time and again, our people have suffered massacres in peaceful protests.

These are some of the reasons why the African National Congress has decided to meet the challenge, to turn from public and orderly demonstrations to enforcedly underground and clandestine activities, to undertake the hard and taxing task of building up an armed and trained organisation of dedicated freedom-fighters determined to meet and vanquish the oppressor's forces on the battlefield.

I believe that, thus far, we have successfully met this challenge. Despite the highly-organised and lavishly-endowed opposition of the South African state, the richest in Africa and one of the richest in the world, our underground militants in the country are carrying out illegal activities at an ever-rising tempo. In a few short years the fighting wing of our movement, Umkhonto we Sizwe, has developed into a first-rate military force, sustained by high morale and political understanding, which already has undergone its baptism of fire and exceeded the highest expectations.

In August of this year the whole of white South Africa were thrown into a state of panic when advance detachments of our forces, in alliance with those of the Zimbabwe African People's Union, clashed with the oppressors' security forces in Mankie, North Matabeleland and the Zambezi Valley. Heavy casualties were inflicted on the racist forces by a relatively handful of freedom-fighters. The Smith regime was forced to call on the Pretoria Government for arms and men, thus exposing at the first threat its claim to be an 'independent' government.

These clashes/..

These clashes were a foretaste of what is to come, as our brave fighters approach and enter the heartland of white supremacy, and the main bastion of colonialism and aggression in the African continent, the fascist Republic of South Africa. Inevitably their advent will inspire an uprising of the entire oppressed mass of our people.

We have no illusions that the struggle can be anything but long and bitter. Not only will the racists fight hard to preserve their ill-gotten gains and privileges, but no doubt they will continue to receive help from their wealthy foreign backers with investments in our country, from imperialist circles in Britain, the U.S., West-Germany, France, etc.

Already, in the first skirmish, we have sinister indications of where the British government, although styled "Labour" stands in regard to Southern Africa. By sending troops, equipment and police into the British colony of Rhodesia, the Vorster regime was of course committing a gross act of aggression. Apart from making the feeblest of protests, obviously anticipating they would be ignored, the British government took no action whatever against Pretoria; its trade with South Africa continues to boom, and friendly discussions took place with Vorster about the Rhodesia "problem". At the same time Britain "warned" Zambia against allegedly permitting its territory to be used by African freedom-fighters.

The fraudulent "sanctions" against the Smith regime ignored with impunity by South Africa and also by British firms - the renewed negotiations with Smith and his gang - all these point to a new, planned sell-out on a grand scale, of the interests of the African people in the South; a sell-out in which not only the unholy Vorster-Smith-Salazar alliance but also Britain and her NATO allies are involved.

However, we are not intimidated by this grandiose line-up of imperialist conspirators. We have pledged ourselves to liberate our lands from foreign rule and we are confident that we shall be victorious.

We will win because our cause is just, and because we rely on the active support of our countless millions of friends in Africa, in Asia and throughout the world.

We are confident that once the freedom-loving people of India are made conscious of the magnitude and nobility of our epic struggle, they will give it their unstinted political, moral and practical support.

It is/...

It is precisely to provide them with that information and understanding, and to mobilise that powerful support, that constitutes the principal task of this, our African National Congress office in India, at the present stage.

We are sure they can rally on the warmest response and assistance at every level.

Our people have declared war on the fascist rulers of South Africa. Nothing will stop us from achieving our goal - the total liberation of the whole of Southern Africa. To this we dedicate our lives. For this we claim your brotherly aid.

Solidarity of the peoples of India

and South Africa - Zindabad!

Revolutionary struggles of the peoples

of Asia, Africa and Latin America -

Zindabad!

Inqilab Zindabad!

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THE SECRECY OF URANIUM

According to Section 28 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1948 anyone talking or writing about uranium and Atomic power without the permission of the Atomic Energy Board of South Africa was liable to a fine of five thousand pounds or imprisonment of twenty years. It is a fascinating commentary on the unity-in-oppression of the majority of influential Whites that this aspect of the Act was never infringed, so much so that it had altogether been forgotten until revived by the Johannesburg "STRA" last month. The "STRA" in fact thought this was something new and had to hastily retract the next day.

The reasons for demanding such secrecy are obvious. Uranium is a vital mineral in the production of thermonuclear weapons. And South Africa is an important producer and supplier of the West's uranium needs.

But/....