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ANC-SWA

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 * A.N.C. Office Box 1791, LUSAKA. *
 * 4/4/68 *
 * REACTION TO ARMED OFFENSIVE *
 * EAGERLY ENTHUSIASTIC HERE STOP *
 * LOCAL PRESS AND RADIO AT NO *
 * STAGE REPORTED CRIMINAL FALSE *
 * CLAIMS BY COUNTER REVOLUTIONARIES *
 * STOP HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS TO *
 * JOINT COMMAND AND FIGHTERS IN *
 * BATTLEFIELD STOP. *
 * - A.N.C. MISSION ALGERIA *
 * ***** *

OLYMPICS TITBITS:

Following are extracts from an interview given by the prominent Afro-American Athlete, Moses Mayfield to the "Times of Zambia(6/4/68).

"At least 90 per cent of American Negro athletes will boycott the Olympic Games in Mexico this year over the admission of South Africa, American civil rights and the tragic assassination of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King.

Moses Mayfield jnr., the Negro cross-country athlete among the eight American runners now at Chingola during a tour of Africa, made this statement yesterday after learning of Dr. King's death.

Mayfield said most American Negro athletes had indicated they would support decisions by African and Asian countries condemning South Africa's admission to Games.

He dismissed as rubbish the contention that politics should be kept out of sport. "This is a made-up terminology to suit those who want to approve segregation and apartheid."
Disapproval

He feels that it would be "window dressing" to have Blacks and Whites competing on equal terms outside South Africa and yet be segregated in the land of their birth.

'Likewise, we feel we should show our indignation and disapproval of the existing segregationary state of affairs in American life by lending moral support to the African and Asian cause on this issue,' he said.

"It is well and good to be treated as equals in Mexico, but when we come to the United States this oneness ceases at the airport."

Bravo, Moses. Indeed, our struggle is yours, and yours, ours.
-ED.

THE MIGHTY ARE HUMBLD

Progressives everywhere can, this week, hold their heads high and their chests out. All the bombs, all the napalm, and all the atomic weapons in the world cannot stop the forward march of mankind to freedom and peace. This is the lesson of Vietnam.

The mighty United States which spends annually over 50 billion dollars on arms has been humbled. In the field of weapons of war the National Liberation Front of Vietnam was overwhelmed by the military power of the United States, but in the field of ideas, in the battle for the minds and hearts of men, in the matter of belief in the justice of a cause, the United States was a non-starter. The people of Vietnam by their determination, their courage and, above all, their resolute fight for National Liberation, peace and freedom have convincingly demonstrated once more that ideas are mightier than weapons.

Hesitantly and with the usual duplicity and double-dealing President Johnson has been compelled to give ground. His announcement that he would not stand for the Presidency of the United States is unprecedented; it reflects the depth of anti-war feeling among the people of the United States. It is not sheer coincidence that Johnson simultaneously announced a severe curtailment of the bombing of North Vietnam. Much of the bombing still continues but the Vietnamese people have again demonstrated their love for peace by agreeing to begin exploratory talk with the United States.

The struggle of the Vietnamese people is by no means over. Johnson's gesture may only be a political gimmick - something common in United States politics. But there is no doubt of the outcome. Militarily, the United States army has been outgeneralled by the N.L.F.; economically the Vietnam war has dealt crippling blows to the dollar; politically the N.L.F. enjoys overwhelming support in South Vietnam; internationally the United States stands exposed as an aggressor; internally, within the United States, the war policy is bankrupt and Johnson has been forced to take a step, which is tantamount to resignation. Without doubt ultimate victory belongs to the people of Vietnam.

The success of the National Liberation Front against one of the mightiest military machines the world has ever known holds an important lesson for Southern Africa. Pessimists and prophets of gloom keep on harping about the strength of the South African army and airforce. They overlook the basic fact that the majority of the people of Southern Africa who have always rejected their oppression are now more determined than ever to win their liberation. And, as the Vietnamese War has shown, where a people is determined to achieve its National Liberation, no amount of gunpowder, and steel can defeat them. Without doubt victory shall be ours, too.

FIGHTING TALK:

THE ENEMY SHIVERS - By Chibusa Wandu

LUSAKA - Last week the ZAPU-ANC guerrillas struck at targets within fifteen miles of the rebel capital, Salisbury. Panic-stricken, the Smith regime called up fresh units of the Rhodesian Territorial Army. And the South African racist regime which is backing Smith's clique to the hilt issued more threats against Independent African States who support the Freedom Fighters.

Last Thursday, near Acturus at Mr. Edwards' farm no more than 17 miles from Salisbury a brief engagement occurred between our guerrilla forces and an enemy contingent. In the engagement Mr. Edwards, himself a reservist, and a White trooper were eliminated. The enemy then threw into the area scores of troops in a vain search for the guerrillas.

In the Southern part of Zimbabwe other guerrilla units in at least three engagements eliminated or routed gangs of the Rhodesian and S.A. troops.

Since our guerrilla offensive, three weeks ago, the number of enemy casualties has risen sharply. Enemy wounded are lying in their scores in hospitals which have been taken over by the military at Karoi, Sinoia, Inkomo, Brady barracks and the general hospital in Salisbury. S.A. newspapers reported that rebel Minister, van der Byl toured "several" hospitals visiting the wounded soldiers. At the time of writing the regime's communiques still reported only seven soldiers wounded!

Meanwhile of the many deserters from the Rhodesian oppressor's army, two White uniformed soldiers have eluded detention and crossed into Botswana.

The call up of the Territorials reveals the desperate position of the Smith forces. At the beginning of our offensive the regime mobilised the entire Light Infantry, cancelled army leave and dragged army men urgently from cinema shows and drinking dens. The airforce was put into action. Then the reservists were mobilised and put on duty around the African townships. S. Africa's Commissioner of Police General Johannes Keevy, offered the regime more troop reinforcements including equipment such as helicopters and armoured cars. Now the regime has called up the Territorials.

With the increasingly critical situation staring its puppet - the rebel Rhodesian regime - in the face, the S.A. authorities have resorted to issuing a fresh series of threats against militant African States such as Zambia and Tanzania.

In a series of news commentaries Radio South Africa has said that the S.A. regime would emulate the example of recent Israeli attacks on alleged Arab guerrilla bases in Jordan. Proclaiming S. Africa's right to embark upon such aggressive action, the radio invoked articles 51 of the Charter of the United Nations and claimed that article 51 permits S.A. to strike at countries harbouring "terrorists". Authenticity to this psychological preparation of the racist public in S.A. was given by Defence Minister, Botha, who told the All-White Parliament in Cape Town that S.A. would retaliate hard against countries who were aiding the guerrillas. THESE THREATS HAVE NOT BEEN TAKEN LIGHTLY IN ZAMBIA. PRESIDENT KAUNDA DECLARED LAST WEEK THAT HE HAD DECIDED TO DEAL FIRMLY WITH ANY AGGRESSOR MAD ENOUGH TO ATTACK ZAMBIA. * * * *

SINDOIA
HOSPITAL

"Sorry madam -
only those lives we
really need can
be saved here."

B. ZULU



SUB-EDITORIAL:

SOUTH WEST AFRICA

The attempt of the United Nations Council on South West Africa to enter that country and establish United Nations jurisdiction there is like a curate's egg, good in parts. Clearly, in terms of United Nations Resolutions, racist South Africa is now illegally administering South West Africa and as such is an aggressor. Even more clear is the overwhelming physical might of the United Nations as compared to White South Africa.

The question then is: "Why is the United Nations so reluctant to use its power to eject South Africa?" There was no reluctance to drag the United Nations into Korea - as an aggressor. The answer, as always when liberty and freedom are at issue; is that imperialism still appears to have a stranglehold on the United Nations and, whenever possible, uses it to serve its own interests. The vast investments that imperialism has in fascist South Africa makes it imperative that South Africa is not "rubbed the wrong way". Many people are understandably cynical about the latest move especially in view of last year's experience when the aircraft carrying the two United Nations representatives returned tamely to Lusaka without even landing at Windhoek.

Nevertheless, as a first step, we fully support the United Nations Commission's attempt to establish a United Nations presence in South West Africa. South Africa has already stated that it will not allow the aircraft carrying the Councillors to land and has generally adopted a threatening posture. But the racist White minority regime is not as sure of itself as it pretends - a side-effect of the United Nations Commission's planned entry into South West Africa is that South Africa has now agreed to have talks with a representative of U Thant's.

We certainly hope last year's tragic fiasco will not be repeated that the plane will not return to Lusaka without fulfilling its mission. After all South Africa can hardly dare to shoot the plane down. There is, of course, the possibility that the United Nations Councillors will be arrested and then forcibly ejected from South West Africa.

Fascist South Africa will then have compounded its aggression in South West Africa by violence against the only legal administration. There is no doubt that if this happens the only course open to the United Nations is to counter violence with violence - to send a United Nations military force into South West Africa.

This is the crux of the issue. Indecision and inaction have already tarnished the United Nations image. Many sections of the oppressed in Southern Africa have ceased to have any confidence in the United Nations. Continued hesitation on the part of the United Nations will serve to confirm this lack of faith. WILL THE UNITED NATIONS ACT DECISIVELY?

SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA: THE CRACKING PARTNERSHIP

By Ndab'ezitha.

"There is still a great amount of secrecy about the degree to which South Africa is supporting Rhodesia both economically and with para-military assistance, but there is no doubt where the sympathy of the public lies." With these words, the reactionary London magazine, African World of January 1968 expressed a widely held view. We ourselves have harped on the theme of an unholy alliance between South Africa and Rhodesia. But how solid is this alliance? In the light of recent developments, this question is highly pertinent.

Having lost Zambia as a dumping ground for her goods, Rhodesia has been exporting her secondary industrial products to South Africa. Thus Rhodesian-made cosmetics, transistor radios, batteries, tyres and textile goods are flooding the South African market, and offering stiff competition to the local goods. Just how serious this competition is can be judged from the new crisis in the clothing industry.

In December 1964 South Africa and the Salisbury regime signed a five-year trade agreement in terms of which most of Rhodesia's clothing exports enter the Republic without restriction or, at the most, with very slight control in the form of customs dues and quotas. Thus, Rhodesia can sell a million shirts a year at the highly-favourable duty rate of 12% instead of the usual 25%. More favourable still, she can sell as many safari suits and trousers - both long and short - as she likes. On these items there is no restriction at all.

Another booster to the Rhodesian manufacturers was the encouragement they received from their Finance Minister, Wrathall. In his budget speech on 20th July, 1967, he announced that for the fiscal year 1967-68, he would introduce tax concessions for exporters in order to expand exports and to replace the lost or restricted markets.

Having lost the Zambia market and others, the Rhodesians were not slow to export to South Africa. By March of this year, they had captured at least 5% of the South African market for shirts. And by the end of this year, the safari suits and trousers are expected to take 25% of the South African market. As a result of this influx, the South African clothing industry is in serious trouble. It cannot compete with the Rhodesian goods. These are cheaper because production costs in Rhodesia are lower than in South Africa. An important factor here is that labour in Rhodesian factories costs less than in South Africa. Job reservation being minimal whereas in South Africa it riddles the economy, the Rhodesian clothing industry can make far better use of African labour.

Then the influential Transvaal Chamber of Industries and the South African National Clothing Federation expressed grave concern over the unfair Rhodesian competition. To them it is a serious threat. They
fully/...

fully realise that if unrestricted, the Rhodesians will put the South African manufacturers out of business. Therefore in March the two bodies proposed that Rhodesians curb some of their exports to the Republic. Obviously The Sunday Times underrated the power of these two organisations, for on March 17, 1968, it blithely predicted it to be unlikely that "the existing trade agreement between the two countries will be altered or that curbs will be placed by South Africa on Rhodesian exports to the Republic." One reason advanced by this newspaper was that Rhodesia "needs to maintain a sound balance of payments if it is to remain a secure viable State and able to combat terrorism. South Africa needs such a State on her borders."

Now, South Africa has acted. On March 30, 1968, she clamped stricter control on Rhodesian clothes. Announcing this step, the Secretary for Commerce, Mr. G.J. Steyn said, "We have taken this step because duty-free admission could be harmful to our clothing manufacturers." (Sunday Express 31/3/68).

This is a development of major importance. When this issue broke into the open early last month, the Salisbury rebels found themselves in deep trouble. Smith could not voluntarily impose a curb on his manufacturers, and thereby deprive them of badly-needed revenue. More than enough trouble on his hands. The tobacco growers and the railwaymen, most of whom support the Front, are restive. Smith can thus ill afford to alienate yet another important sector. Such a move would profit the rightist Rhodesian National Party of Len Idensohn.

South Africa then had to act, and this move was politically advantageous to Smith. To the manufacturers, now up in arms, he can say that South Africa bulldozed her way and rode roughshod over Rhodesian interests, as indeed she has done. Now the Rhodesian business circles are disenchanted with South Africa because of this serious blow to their plans. Where can they now dump their goods? Moreover, there are disquieting reports that South Africa may now be emboldened to curb other Rhodesian goods - radios, cosmetics, etc. - which are busy undercutting hers. In short, to the Rhodesian business and ruling circles, South Africa is proving to be an unreliable ally.

This raises the whole question of the purpose of the unholy alliance. Basically it is a protective alliance designed to shelter South Africa and the lucrative foreign investments from the march of the African Revolution. We must remind the settlers that this is nothing new. In October 1955, Strijdom put the issue quite frankly when he said, "It is the interest of South Africa as a White population and country that the Rhodesians must be strong and must have a large European population....I say this with an eye to our security, with an eye to their security, and with an eye, above all to the security of Southern Africa." (Die Transvaler. 11th October, 1955).

His/....

His successors are governed by the very same consideration. Thus Vorster will abet Smith and hobnob with Salazar so long as it is in his country's interest to do so, and this means, as long as they can hold the line against the winds of change. But if this purpose can be better served by a reactionary and docile African regime like Jonathan's and Banda's, South Africa will dump the settlers and install the African stooges. This is the significance and the danger of Vorster's diplomatic and economic offensive in free Africa. Africa must always be vigilant.

This crisis is important. It shows that South Africa's aid to the rebels has a limit; that she will not be blackmailed by settler arguments on a sound balance of payments as a basis for her ability to "combat terrorism". In short, it proves that the unholy alliance is no solid granite. There are cracks in it. More will appear as the ZAPU-ANC forces rout the enemy.

* * * *

P O E M

FRONTLINE

by G.S.

Frontline!

Where manhood and consciousness is tested.
The only place to bury persecutions and burdens of ages.
The only place to declare names immortal.
Trust me, brother, you will not be alone there.

Frontline!

Where bullets will graze on man and grass;
Where man will make his own lightning and thunder;
Where the enemy will fall and never to rise.
Brother, truly my shadow will be next to yours.

Frontline!

I know it is bitter, but I like it.
I like it particularly because it is bitter;
I like it because it is where I belong
For out of bitterness comes equality, freedom and peace.

I will be in the frontline when the roll is called.

I must be in the frontline;

Not for glory or distinction, but in devotion to a noble cause.

Frontline!

Valleys and plains of events and history.

Frontline! Frontline! Take me to the frontline!!!

UNITED STATES CRISIS

- By Veteran

America admits defeat. That is the reality behind President Johnson's breathtaking decisions of the past few weeks - the decision to promote General Westmoreland out of Vietnam, to cut down the number of troops drafted for active service, to stop bombing civilians, farms, factories and hospitals in North Vietnam, and, above all, to withdraw from the presidential election. LBJ will not go all the way!

Little David has slain Goliath. The heroic Vietnamese, soldiers and civilians, have accomplished unbelievable feats, first against France, and now against the richest and most powerful imperial State. We salute this wonderful people, and take heart from their glorious example. What the national liberation army of Vietnam has achieved against overwhelming odds, we too can accomplish in our struggle against imperialism and White supremacy rule in Southern Africa.

Hanoi will not celebrate victory until America has ceased her aggression. That moment may not come for a long while. It remains to be seen how far the American establishment - the industrialists, financiers and army chiefs - will allow Johnson to pull out of the war. But Johnson's decisions have already brought about an irreversible change.

The Saigon puppet government has reacted with bitter anger. Vice-President Nguyen Ky declares that the Americans are fighting, not to defend democracy, but to establish colonial rule in Vietnam. Countries like the United States, he told the West German magazine Stern, begin by offering advice and help under the pretence of democracy, and end by conducting a colonial policy.

Saigon naturally breathes defiance, and promises to fight on its own if need be. President Nguyen van Thieu has said that if there are to be no further sacrifices of American youth, then the youth of Vietnam will fill their place. Pouring scorn on 'certain United States politicians and senators' who want to pull out of the war because Americans are being killed, he vowed to order 'full mobilisation' unless Hanoi abandoned its 'stubborn policy of aggression'.

But the Saigon government is powerless. Torn by bitter rivalries between the Ky and van Thieu factions, inefficient and corrupt, the government is alienated from the people it claims to represent. 'Relatively few South Vietnamese appear to feel strong loyalty to the Saigon government', acknowledged Newsweek, the conservative American magazine/....

magazine in a slashing indictment of United States war policy. When the National Liberation Front launched its recent and amazingly successful 'Tet offensive', the South Vietnamese neither warned nor assisted the Saigon government.

The government will collapse when people realise that America intends to pull out of the war. The NLF is the only organised and dedicated political force capable of filling the vacuum, and will take over control of the government in Saigon. 'And this, in turn', comments Newsweek, 'would almost certainly have repercussions unfavourable to the U.S. throughout the rest of the South-east Asia and elsewhere in the world. It would be clear that the U.S. had not only failed to win the war, but that it also failed to police the peace'.

The American establishment cannot face these consequences. We must therefore expect the pro-war party to react violently, probably under the leadership of Nixon, the Republican's likely candidate for the presidency. A frantic campaign will be launched to force Johnson's hand, and to step up the war effort with a view to securing a quick, decisive victory by means of full military mobilisation.

In the light of this prospect, Johnson's 'peace gesture' may prove to be yet another plot to discredit Hanoi and the NLF. They will be accused of rejecting his peace offer, and of persisting in their 'stubborn policy of aggression'. The American people will be told that there is no 'honourable alternative' to total war and victory.

Three obstacles in the way: the tenacity and strength of the anti-imperialist forces in Vietnam; the size and strength of the anti-war movement in the U.S.; and the threatened bankruptcy of the American dollar. They are interlinked. The stronger the resistance to the American invasion, the greater will be the desire of the American people for peace, and the weaker will be the position of the dollar.

Gold prices began to sag after Johnson had announced his decision. Anticipating that the dollar would recover if peace came to Vietnam, speculators started selling their gold hoards on the 'free' market. This trend will be reversed if the pro-war party gains the upper hand in the United States. Pressure on the dollar will then increase, and devaluation may be unavoidable.

Peace in Vietnam or financial bankruptcy. That is the choice before America. The issue concerns the whole world. Now is the time for all who desire peace and freedom from imperial aggression to raise their voices for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the United States from Vietnam.

ONE MORE DOOR SLAMMED IN RACISTS' FACE

- by Mpa'yiphel

The Vorster regime will no longer participate in the affairs of the United Nations Conference on Trade And Development, for as long as that government pursues its repugnant racist policies. A resolution to this effect was carried by a majority vote at an UNCTAD session in New Delhi on the 28th March.

The suspension came after almost two months of uncompromising opposition to South Africa's presence by the Afro-Asian, Socialist and some Latin-American States. S. Africa's unwanted presence was only made possible by the untiring manoeuvres of her Western trading partners who do not scruple to go to ridiculous extents in defence of the Vorster regime.

The UNCTAD was established for the purpose of granting economic assistance to underdeveloped countries. The gulf between the rich and the poor nations had been progressively widening hence a co-ordinated international effort had to be arrived at through the establishment of UNCTAD in order to arrest and reverse this dangerous trend. The disparity between the rich and poor nations of the world is not natural. Many developed countries could not have attained their present standard of economic development were it not for the ruthless plunder and exploitation that accompanied their rape of the Third World. Colonised countries were reduced to the level of being cheap suppliers of raw materials to the colonial powers thus making rapid industrialisation possible in those countries. Finished products from these raw materials would be dumped back in the colonies and sold at exorbitant prices.

In the post-independence period through the United Nations and its agencies and through regional economic groupings, countries of the Third World are struggling to discard and bury the legacy of hunger, poverty and disease they have inherited from colonialism. It could rightly be said that to newly independent countries this is an age of reconstruction. But in all the changing scenes of the present era in the direction of progress the Vorster regime frustrates and forcibly suppresses all forces working for change and the improvement of man's lot in that country. Instead of placing the benefits of South Africa's vast economic resources within reach of all her peoples the Vorster regime maintains an outmoded colonial system and has failed to conceal its designs of replacing the departing colonial powers in Southern and Central Africa.

It is against this background that all honest men should view the resolution calling for the suspension of the Vorster government from UNCTAD. Its policies run in direct opposition to and in violation of what UNCTAD stands for. There could be no principle under which South Africa's participation in UNCTAD could be satisfactorily explained.

However/...

However, much to the dismay, no, to the indignation of the oppressed people of South Africa - Victims of the Apartheid System - certain Western powers insist on shielding and protecting the Vorster government from the increasing world-wide opposition to apartheid. All endeavours by the international community to bring South Africa to book are being sabotaged by these powers. Apartheid does not only benefit the White minority in South Africa but also countries like Britain, the United States, France, West Germany, Japan and others whose large investments and massive annual volume of trade with South Africa earns them super-profits. All these ill-gotten profits are being accumulated by these Western powers at the expense of the oppressed majority of South Africa. This is the secret, the charm of South Africa to her Western trading partners.

It has become fashionable for South Africa's friends to resort to legal formalities when defending South Africa at international forums. Fine points of law and procedure are raised when grave moral issues are at stake as a result of the policies of apartheid. Even at the UNCTAD in New Delhi South Africa's friends resented the introduction of "politics" in a Trade Conference. We will not endeavour to indulge in the totally thankless task of drawing the line between politics and other forms of human activity. We could just remind these powers about the measures of economic strangulation they adopted against some countries purely for political reasons. The United States will remember its attempts against Cuba; France against Guinea; the United States against the progressive government of Dr. Nkrumah. The Peoples' Republic of China has been debarred from U.N. membership purely for political reasons. Must political considerations only be upheld insofar as they favour the interests of the big Western Powers?

Having resorted to all forms of back-stage manoeuvre and diplomacy, a delegate of the Vorster regime, Willem Naude, attempted to invoke a trick that has recently paid the Pretoria government dividends in another international conference. When a roll-call vote was requested by Mario Garcia-Inchaustegui, a delegate from Cuba, Naude hastened to propose a secret ballot but by this time the opponents of apartheid had learnt what a "secret ballot" means. They rejected it and proceeded with the roll-call vote. South Africa was suspended by a vote of 49 in favour, 18 against with 7 abstentions. It will be recalled that the "secret ballot" form of voting resulted in the shameful decision of South Africa's readmission to the Olympics. But thanks to the vigilance of the majority of the delegates the principles of the UNCTAD were defended.

'And now South Africa has been kicked out of the UNCTAD, until it ends its policy of racial discrimination. For as long as the government of South Africa is in the hands of the racists, opponents of apartheid should maintain their vigilance against the intrigues of the Vorster regime with the active collaboration of its major trading partners. South Africa will utilise the period between her suspension and the next UNCTAD in employing all methods that will gain her readmission as she has already done with the Olympics

If/....

If that should ever happen it would render worthless all the statements of condemnation made by the majority States against the Vorster government in New Delhi.

To the oppressed people of South Africa the suspension of the racists from the UNCTAD is a moral boost in their relentless struggle against the inhuman policies of apartheid. On this occasion the Asian Mission of the African National Congress put the matter squarely when in a statement to the UNCTAD Heads of Delegations it said:-

"The suspension of the racist regime of South Africa from membership of UNCTAD comes at a time when that Government is deeply involved in the slaughter of African people in Rhodesia.

To the oppressed people of South Africa, the suspension of the racist regime is a plausible act of solidarity by the progressive people and nations of the world who are determined not to give respite to fascist machinations.

We of the African National Congress of South Africa are deeply inspired by the concerted efforts of the international community to isolate the inhuman regimes in Southern Africa. Their policies of exploitation and oppression of the majority non-White people should never be ignored, for to do so would be to condone what the world has always considered morally abominable and indefensible"...

Indeed the policies of apartheid are incompatible with human progress and development. They are a flagrant violation of peace and are running against the provisions of the United Nations' Charter. The oppressed people of South Africa express the hope that other international organisations will follow the principled stand taken by UNCTAD against race discrimination.

FORWARD TO BATTLE, DEAR COMRADES!

At its formation on 16th December, 1961, the UMKHONTO WE SIZWE, the military wing of the African National Congress of South Africa declared that "The people's patience is not endless. The time comes in the life of any nation when there remain only two choices; submit or fight." THAT TIME HAS COME. And, these words are being earnestly translated into reality in Rhodesia where the combined guerrillas of the African National Congress and the Zimbabwe African Peoples Union are once again locked in a life and death struggle with the reactionary forces of Ian Smith and Vorster.

For centuries past, our people in Rhodesia and South Africa have endured the most rigorous racial discrimination, colonial oppression and exploitation. Their rights and demands have been trampled underfoot on a scale unprecedented in recent history. Completely out of step with the rapid progressive developments everywhere on our planet - developments that are highlighted by breadth-taking technological advances even beyond outer space, this disgraceful state of affairs remains rigidly maintained by brutal force and ruthless terror in Southern Africa.

In/...

In White Hall and in other imperialist countries, our people are still regarded as primitive savages who must be guided like toddlers through numerous stages of growth leading to eventual self-government. This is the insult our comrades-in-arms are expected to swallow in Rhodesia. In South Africa, the mad racists throw bread crumbs at our people in contemptuous Roman fashion by promising them hollow independence in their "homelands" sometime in the nebulous future. It is time that the racialists and their imperialist mentors must clearly understand that we are sufficiently mature to see through these wicked strategems.

It is also incumbent to underline that the oppressed peoples in the Southern region of Africa have, with a great deal of patience and dignity, knocked at a closed and barred door demanding their inalienable human rights and freedoms. Who can even charge us of being unreasonable? Is it not a fact that leading statesmen of the world, representing millions of peoples, signed the historic document on the Declaration of Human Rights in 1948? Since then, the conscience of the world has been constantly reminded about the urgency of extending these rights to all human beings irrespective of race, colour or creed. To that extent, the United Nations Organisation, embracing the aspirations of the whole of mankind, has declared 1968 - a year for the observance of Human Rights.

On the contrary, the reaction from our enemies has been characteristically brutal and disdainful. They have shocked the whole of mankind by forcefully refusing to accede to these just demands and by illegally annexing more and more territory thereby bringing more and more people under the heels of their jackboots. The actions of the fascist South African regime against South West Africa which has now become international property by international norms backed by solemn decisions of the overwhelming majority of the countries of the world, are abhorrent. The world's community of nations is now no longer called upon to test South Africa's attitude but to firmly arrest her defiant actions.

We proclaim for the whole world to know that the battles that are now raging in Rhodesia will be intensified. The time has finally come for the enemies of our people to receive just punishment for the callous crimes they have over centuries of colonial plunder and domination perpetrated unchecked. The loss of life which has always been the order of day through the brutal massacres of innocent people by fascist hangmen will, henceforth, not be one-sided. The battle-field is already littered with the lamented corpses of the enemy soldiers. We shall, as tomorrow's dawn, certainly direct our attention to those who are the helmsmen steering the ships of reaction. The Southern Africa version of the Nuremberg trials will undoubtedly take place when we shall have ultimately settled scores with their messengers of doom

The Asian Mission of the African National Congress is deeply impressed by the tremendous demonstrations of solidarity that are being manifested by our multi-million strong brothers in Asia. We are highly satisfied with the massive political support we continue to enjoy from this important region of the world. However, the sharp turn events are taking in the storm centres of revolution in Southern Africa, demand that our friends all over the continent should increase the volume of their assistance in more concrete terms commensurate with the ever-growing demands of our struggle. The impact of the fierceness of the present encounters in Rhodesia is such that the friends and apologists of the two fascist regimes have been unable to play down the truth. Their heavily slanted reports in favour of the enemy are designed to cow our determination and mislead the world. They shall not deter us in our forward march to victory.

It is against the background of this situation that our fighting men are in urgent need of the where-with-all to accelerate and intensify the just punishment they are currently meting to the enemy. The cry is for you to give us all the material assistance possible in order to ensure the speedy defeat of our enemies to the shame of the imperialist powers who continue to prop the fascist hangmen of Ian Smith and Vorster.

The Asian Mission of the African National Congress warmly congratulates the courageous fighters for liberation for their heroic feats in battle. We have no doubt that they will emulate the glorious examples of our indomitable brothers in Vietnam, Angola, Guinea Bisau and Mozambique.

Forward to battle, Dear Comrades !!!

This article and the following News Item have been culled from "SOUTH AFRICA FREEDOM NEWS" Bulletin issued by the Asian Mission of the A.N.C. in New Delhi-3

News Brief

At their meeting held on 7th March, 1968, in New Delhi, the National Federation of Indian Women expressed deep indignation at the monstrous crime committed by the illegal and racist regime of Ian Smith in murdering three African patriots in total disregard of world public opinion.

They declared that "The racist Ian Smith would not have dared to act in this blatant manner but for the encouragement that they have been receiving from the British Government as well as from other imperialist governments of U.S.A., West Germany, and Portugal. We especially condemn the role of the British Government which refused to take military action against this illegal regime. We call upon all women and women's organisations to voice their strong protest against this heinous crime."

- South Africa Freedom News

23/3/68.
