

AM63

UNITED DEMOCRATIC FRONT

UDF UNITES! APARTHEID DIVIDES!



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UDF PRESS RELEASE ON THE NATIONAL DAY OF PROTEST SEPTEMBER 1, 1984.

The United Democratic Front declares Monday September 3rd 1984 a National Day of Protest against the implementation of the tricameral parliament, whose fate has already been determined by the massive 82,7% rejection.

This sterile parliament is being ushered in against the backdrop of general unrest, Police repression, detention of UDF officials and activists and unprecedented propaganda against the Front. The implementation of the new parliament under these conditions is a clear ^{indication} that this government remains committed to the promotion and protection of the White minority rule. To guarantee this, the government has co-opted Indian and Coloured collaborators as junior partners to suppress legitimate opposition.

The glorious victory of the UDF has exposed the political bankruptcy of the National Party policy of divide and rule. In just one year of its existence the UDF has thrown the ruling group into complete disarray. This is clearly evidenced by the senseless detentions indicative of panic and desperation by the government. Above all the cheap and irrational talk of a new carrot (Black rights) for urban Blacks. The "Urban Blacks" have already shown in the November 1983 BLA elections, that they will not settle for anything less than full political rights in a non-racial, united and democratic South Africa.

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Presidents: Oscar Mpetsha, Albertina Sisulu, Archie Gumede
Eastern Cape President: Edgar Ngoyi
Border President: Steve Tshwete

National Treasurers: Cassim Saloojee, Mewa Ramgobin
National Publicity Secretary: Mosiuoa 'Terror' Lekota
National Secretary: Popo Molele

These factors indicate conclusively, the new parliament is doomed to fail and is a miscarriage. The Apartheid policy has run its course. The only way the racist government can cling to power is by force. The heavy police presence at UDF meetings, at all polling stations and the display of force in Lenasia and Actonville bears testimony to this fact. But the people's quest and desire for freedom cannot be suppressed by detentions, harassments and force.

Those who have opted to enter this parliament are endorsing the present tension and are equally guilty of the Apartheid crimes against our people. We call on them not to enter this farcical and illegitimate partnership.

We demand the scrapping of the new constitution and the release of all activists and leaders. The massive international recognition and popular local support of these people clearly indicates that our struggle is just and legitimate.

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