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SUPPORT CONGRESS

TRANSVAAL INDIAN CONGRESS

AN AFFILIATE OF THE UNITED DEMOCRATIC FRONT. (UDF)

25063 Ferreirstown 2048

Head Office: 4th Floor AEL Centre 78 Mint Road Fordsburg. ☎



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MESSAGE FROM TRANSVAAL INDIAN CONGRESS

Dear Brothers & Sisters

I write this letter out of a serious concern for our future. Today, the Indian and Coloured communities are being forced to accept a new constitution. We are being asked to join the white government to continue the oppression of our African brothers and sisters. Congress has studied the constitution carefully. We are absolutely convinced that the 1983 constitution does not bring about any fundamental change in the present apartheid system.

We give details of our reasons for rejecting the constitution in this pamphlet. However, we ask you to remember that peace and equality in S.A. cannot come about if the majority of our people, the African people, are left out.

Our community has a long and proud history of sacrifice and dedication in the struggle for a just S.A. We have never worked with white governments against the African people. We have always opposed racial discrimination and apartheid laws. From 1946, when we rejected the Asiatic Land Tenure Act, till today, the majority of our people will have nothing to do with dummy bodies like the SAIC.

Despite this glorious tradition we have always had a few people in our community who were willing to work with and for the government. Today we have some in our community who are willing to work with this government and take part in the new apartheid parliament.

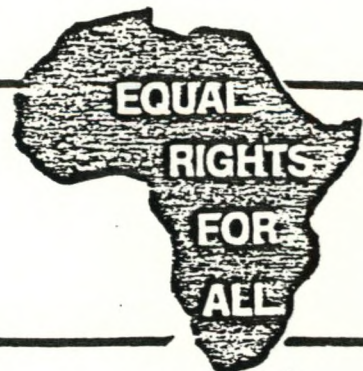
We in Congress urge you to think carefully about our future. Congress believes that for a safe democratic future where all S. Africans will live in harmony and prosperity, WE MUST REJECT THE CONSTITUTION.

We are not alone in our rejection of the constitution. Over 600 organisations in the UDF are with us. Also, the United Nations supports us.

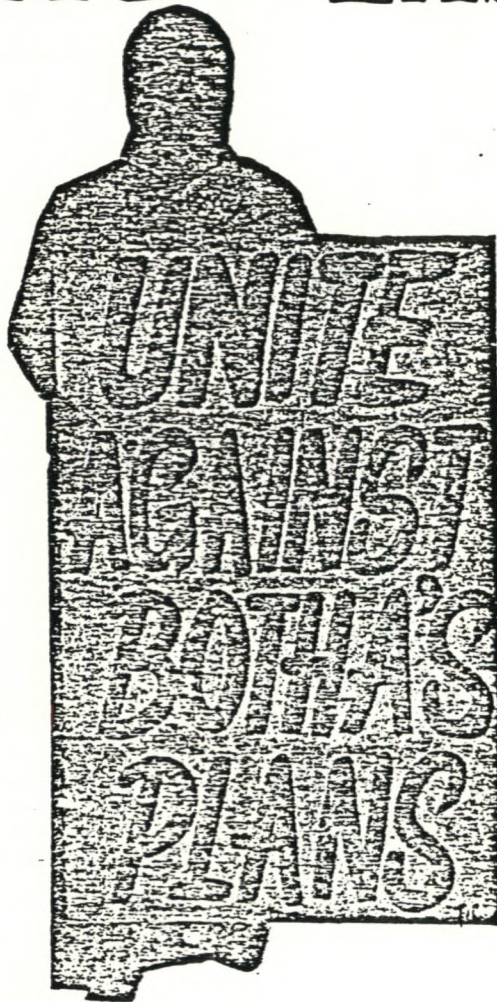
Remember history is on our side. Yours in struggle

Benjamin Jussab

- DON'T VOTE IN AUGUST
Remember, you will not be breaking the law if you don't vote.
- SIGN THE UDF DECLARATION
- JOIN CONGRESS



TIC — EAST RAND BR



RENTS WE CAN AFFORD

Year after year we pay rent for flats which will never be ours. But, the flats are not properly maintained.

Last year, tenants demanded a stop to the increases. Fight for rents we can afford.

They spoke of the attack on our living standards. Of housing shortages. They spoke of the threat of our young to join the army once this constitution is implemented.

Together, they resolved to fight the government's new constitution August 28 elections. And, to launch the campaign of Congress (TIC) on the East Rand.

On Sunday, 6th May, 250 delegates attended the launch of the Branch of the TIC. Representatives came from Actonville, Heidelberg, Germiston, Nigel, Rynsoord and Balfour.

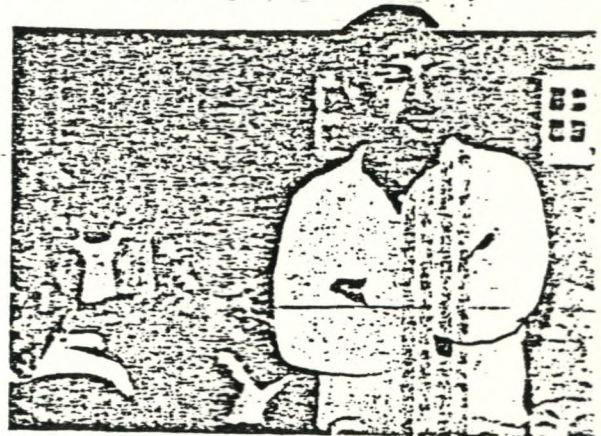
Mr. Joe Francis was given a standing ovation after being elected twenty-member East Rand Branch executive.

The President of the TIC, Dr. Essop Jassat, said: "Our rejection of dummy bodies. We must do the same."

Billy Nair of the Natal Indian Congress said the Indian people are the collaborators trying to get into the Indian parliament. They are selling us out because of the fat salaries, which have been promised."

"The Indian and Coloured people must unite with their sisters to demand equal rights for all," said Popo Molefe. He is still an affiliate of the United Democratic Front.

The message of the TIC is being taken into every community in Laudium and Lenasia, the stand of the Indian people is "WE REJECT BOTHA'S NEW DEAL".



250 say NO to the constitution and build the TIC — East Rand Branch

CONGRESS DEMANDS HOUSING

We live in backyards, outbuildings and flats. We have been pushed from pillar to post as a result of the Group Areas Act. Thousands of our people have suffered in this way.

Now, the government is telling us to build our own homes. Will we get bank loans? Can we afford to build our own houses? The "new deal" will not bring housing, security and comfort to our people.



EQUAL

The drop-out of the day. School equipment. The conditions.

This year, millions of people will vote for the constitution. Pa Let us fight for

ANCH ON THE MOVE

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To boycott the
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"... the constitution will not give us equal education. ...", Joe Francis, chairperson of the East Rand Branch.

IS THIS CHANGE?

This year, rents will go up. GST has gone up. Food prices are rocketing. By 1986, education will no longer be free.

The government is spending less and less on housing, education and welfare. And, more and more on the army

Is this change? Is this a new deal?

WHY WE SAY NO

On the 28th August our people are being asked to go to the polls. To elect representatives to the new three chamber parliament.

The "sell-outs" - the Rajbansis, the Mayets and the Pillays are calling our people to participate in this apartheid parliament. They are saying that in this way we will change the system from within.

But, we know this is not true. We know that the whites will have the final say. That African people are excluded. We want a single parliament for all South Africans.

While the government and its puppets are making these promises to us, the burden that our people will have to bear will only become greater.

Sales tax has gone up to 10%. What is the government doing with our money? They are spending it on defence. Our sons will have to fight in their army to defend apartheid.

The government has said that they are not going to build any more houses. That housing is not their responsibility. It is the responsibility of the community. And, those of us living in Council housing are going to face steep increases in the coming months.

More money will still be spent on white education than on Indian, Coloured and African education. And, there are no signs that the Group Areas Act will go. This new constitution will not change anything. Apartheid will continue.

Now, more than ever before, we must stand up. With one voice, we must say no to this constitution.

We must build and strengthen our democratic organisations, such as the TIC. We must join hands with all South Africans under the banner of the United Democratic Front.

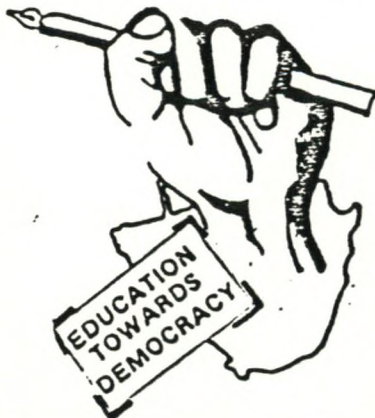
We must fight on for a truly non-racial and a democratic South Africa.



EDUCATION NOW

high schools is growing by
are faced with unemploy-
not have proper teaching
work under difficult condi-

be spent on an apartheid
achers and students unite.
of our children.



DID YOU KNOW?

For every R1.00 spent by the government on the army, 4c goes to housing and 11c to health.

EQUAL RIGHTS

The "sell-outs" are asking us to vote for them. To vote for this "new deal". We will suffer as they laugh all the way to the bank. They will make promises and more promises.

Don't be fooled.

Don't vote.

Demand equal rights for all.

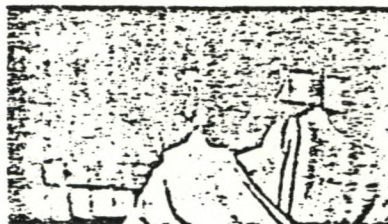
UNITE UNDER CONGRESS



VALIAMA

First martyr to die for democracy

Over 80 years ago, Mahatma Gandhi formed the Transvaal Indian Congress (TIC). Since 1903, the TIC together with the Natal Indian Congress (NIC) has led the struggle for justice and equal rights for the Indian community and their fellow oppressed countrymen.



MAHATMA GANDHI

Founder of the TIC

From 1906—1914, during the Passive Resistance Campaign, our people refused to accept passes, pay tax and the laws limiting movement of Indians in South Africa.

In the 1940s to 1965 our people rallied around the dynamic leadership of Yusuf Dadoo, Monty Naiker, Roy doo, Nana Sita and Mervy Thandray. When the Smuts government offered a token form of parliamentary representation to Indian people in 1946, our people rejected this because we demanded equal rights for all South Africans. Thousands of our people went to jail during the 1946 Passive Resistance Campaign and the 1952 Bantustan Campaign in order to resist injustice. In 1956 the TIC was an important signatory to the Freedom Charter adopted at the Congress of the People at which the Congress Alliance was also formed.

Under the guidance of the Freedom Charter since 1955, Congress has, with the support of the Indian community, continued to struggle against division and destruction. The Charter, which is the living voice of our people, provides for peace, housing and security for all, the right of the people to govern and a more even distribution of resources. The Charter guarantees all of us our rights to our culture, religion and heritage.

Today the TIC continues to unite all sections of our people against Apartheid. We stand for a non-racial and democratic South Africa, free of all forms of exploitation. We will not betray this ideal by participating in the present three-chambered parliament which is based on separate development.

Congress therefore rejects the new constitution and calls upon every South African, rich and poor, young and old, to join us in this struggle.

TIC is affiliated to the United Democratic Front (UDF) which consists of more than 600 organisations in all over the country; workers, businessmen, students, men and women alike.

The people of South Africa will reject the Constitution through the UDF. The UDF has launched the Million Signature Campaign in which one million people will sign the declaration and say NO to Apartheid.

TIC believes that a democratic society can only be achieved by struggling shoulder to shoulder with our fellow-oppressed African and Coloured brothers and sisters, together with other democrats as in the United Democratic Front (UDF).



YUSUF DADOO
Past President of the TIC.



PREMA NAIDOO



RAMLAL BHOOLIA



RAM SALOJEE

**JOIN A MILLION PEOPLE — SUPPORT UDF
SIGN THE DECLARATION**

SHAM'S PRINTERS.

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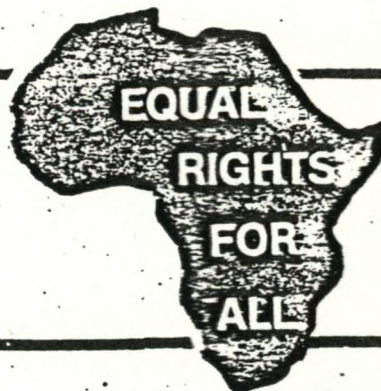
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DO THE PROPOSALS MEAN CHANGE ?

It is only fair that all people in South Africa should have an equal say in the way the country is run. But in South Africa we know that only Whites are allowed to vote for the city councils and Government. Indian, Coloured and African people are forced to accept things like high rents, low wages, inferior education, high food prices, which are decided for us because we don't have a say.

But Black people, have not accepted all these problems sitting down. We have always struggled and asked to have equal rights. Since 1948 when the Nationalist party started ruling South Africa a lot of bad things have happened. The group areas act, the homeland policy, job reservation and other unjust laws have been passed.

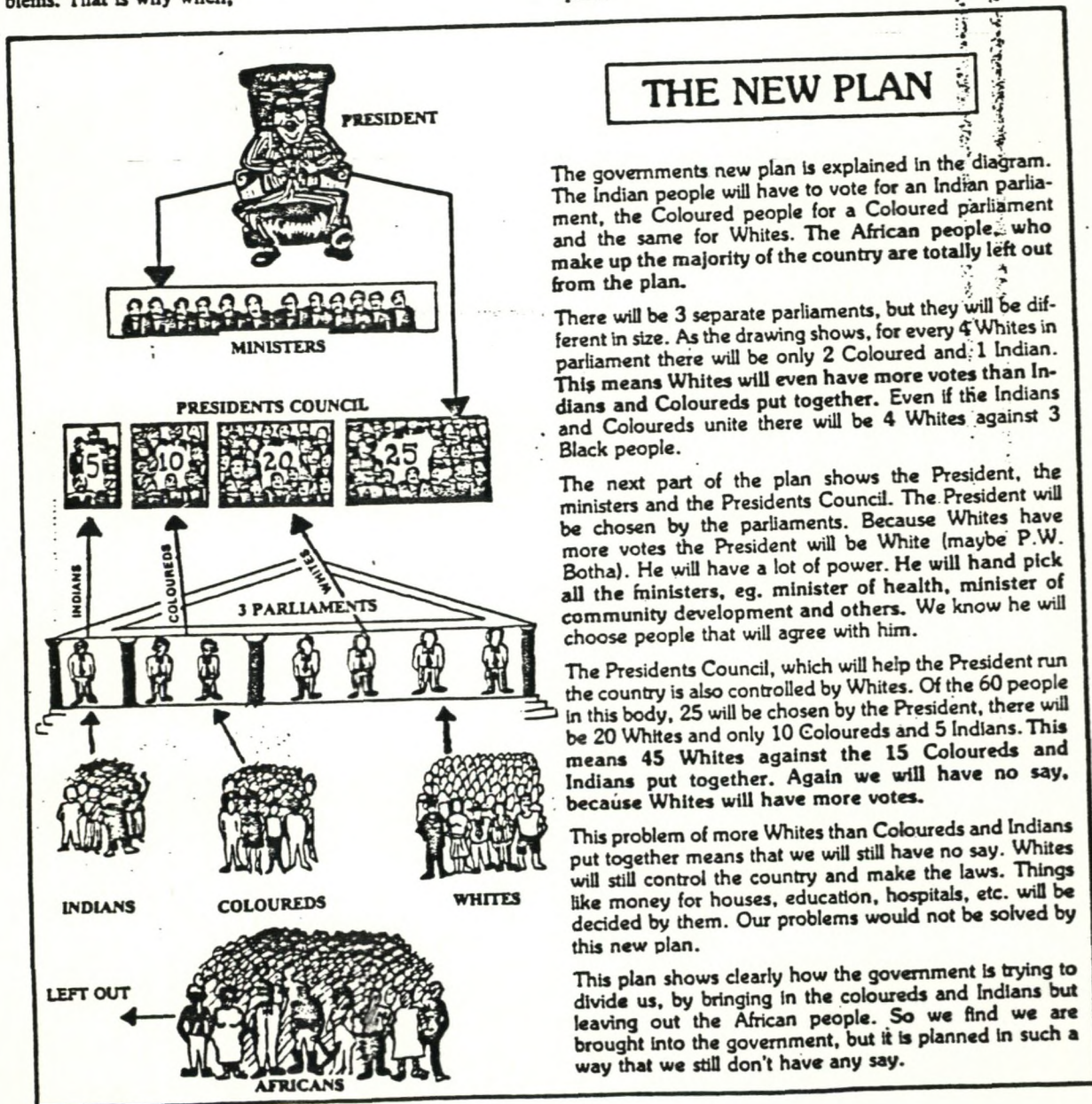
The Govt. has since then offered us dummy bodies. These bodies have no power and cannot solve our problems. That is why when;

THEY GAVE US MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES — WE REJECTED THEM.

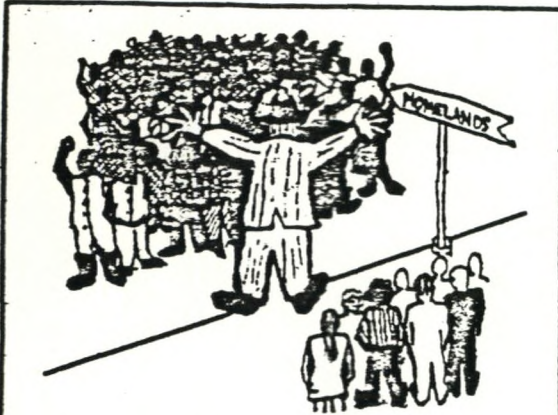
THEY GAVE US SAIC — WE REJECTED THEM
People then formed their own organisations to fight for equal rights for all people in other areas.

Trade unions have fought for workers, students have gone on boycotts to fight for their rights. All these bodies have demanded that all people living in South Africa should have equal rights. Also people in other countries have put pressure on the government to do away with apartheid.

This has forced the govt. to make some changes and now they are offering us a new deal. Before we accept it we need to look carefully at what is being offered. We know from experience that this government will not easily give us what we want. The new plan is the same old divide and rule policy in a new wrapping. So let us look carefully at the new plan.



WHY WE REJECT THE NEW CONSTITUTION?



Africans are left out totally. This means we will be divided and Coloureds and Indians will become part of the system that is causing all the problems we have today.



Whites will still control the country. They have more votes in all parts of the plan. This means we will still have no say, our problems will not be solved.



Because we will have the vote (not a real one) our brothers, fathers and sons will be forced to fight on the border to protect an unequal system.



All the laws, like the Group Areas Act, removals and homeland policy will remain the same. This means our people will continue to suffer under these unjust laws.



The new plan can only be financed by higher taxation and cutbacks on housing, public services, education, etc. For example, the government will no longer build houses. Rents, GST and food prices will increase. The working people will not be able to make ends meet.



Because this plan affects the whole country it will mean that all the people of South Africa will have to stand united against the new constitution and the August elections.

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