

CONCLUSION ON THE UDF

We have found that the UDF was conceived in the councils of the ANC and that in its birth the ANC call for a United Democratic Front played a major role.

Since its launch the UDF consistently popularised the ANC and fomented distrust and even hatred amongst the Black population against the South African government and its organs, especially the Black local authorities.

Its policy was in all material respects the same as that of the ANC. It was bent on the downfall of the South African government and the destruction of the Black local authorities. It was not as explicit on the question of violence as the ANC. The UDF did not openly and directly advocate violence. That would have brought about immediate state intervention and cessation of its activities. It created a mass organisation of intertwined affiliates which could be called into action when the time was ripe. In order to further its organisation and to prepare the ground for the final onslaught by the masses, it set about to foster dissatisfaction and create a revolutionary climate amongst the Black population.

The expressed purpose of the UDF's propaganda campaigns was to politicise the masses by harping on their grievances in order to mobilise and organise them against the government. Fomenting resentment and hatred against the government and its institutions was in integral component thereof.

Where the support was sought of the White, Indian and (possibly) the Coloured sections of the population the speeches did not suggest violence, but where Blacks were addressed the mask of peace was removed and the language used was, when not revolutionary, often open to such interpretation by those who were so inclined. By speeches, poems and songs a revolutionary climate was nurtured.

The UDF uncannily predicted that after August 1984 blood would flow.

When the riots broke out country-wide against the Black local authorities and other government institutions UDF affiliates often played a leading role in fanning the flames of hatred against these institutions and their incumbents. They received the UDF's full support. In fact they were executing UDF policy.

The security forces, attempting to restore order, were denigrated and the UDF persistently called for their withdrawal from the townships. At no stage did it deplore the murder of the councillors and the arson of their businesses.

It openly sided with the ANC and regarded the government of the Republic of South Africa as "the enemy" which had to be destroyed. For practical purposes the government of the Republic of South Africa is at war with the ANC. In these circumstances the intent of the UDF was no less hostile than that which one would find in times of war in the case of treasonable activities.

We wish to state clearly and unequivocally that it has not been proved that all the affiliates of the UDF and all the persons named in the indictment as amplified by further particulars, were co-conspirators. We find that there were many people who flocked to the UDF out of disgust or disenchantment with the policies of the government in the expectation that it would be the catalyst for radical but peaceful change on the South African political scene. There must be many members and supporters of the UDF, especially those on the periphery, that would not have become aware of the course the UDF took. There must be many more who, woven in the cocoon of their political outlook, closed their eyes to the fact that this course was leading to revolt. This is not an accusation. It is a statement of a sad fact. We have had the dubious benefit of an in depth investigation into the policies of the UDF. They did not.

We find that the dominant core of the leadership of the UDF formulated and executed a policy of mass organisation whilst fomenting a revolutionary climate in order to lead to mass action

against governmental institutions. Violence was an intended, necessary and inevitable component of such action by the masses. It was intended to make South Africa ungovernable.

It follows that in respect of that leadership of the UDF the state has proved the crime of treason.

DELMAS TREASON TRIAL 1985-1989

PUBLISHER:

Publisher:- Historical Papers, The University of the Witwatersrand

Location:- Johannesburg

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DOCUMENT DETAILS:

Document ID:- AK2117-K2117-L11

Document Title:- Conclusion on UDF 726-729