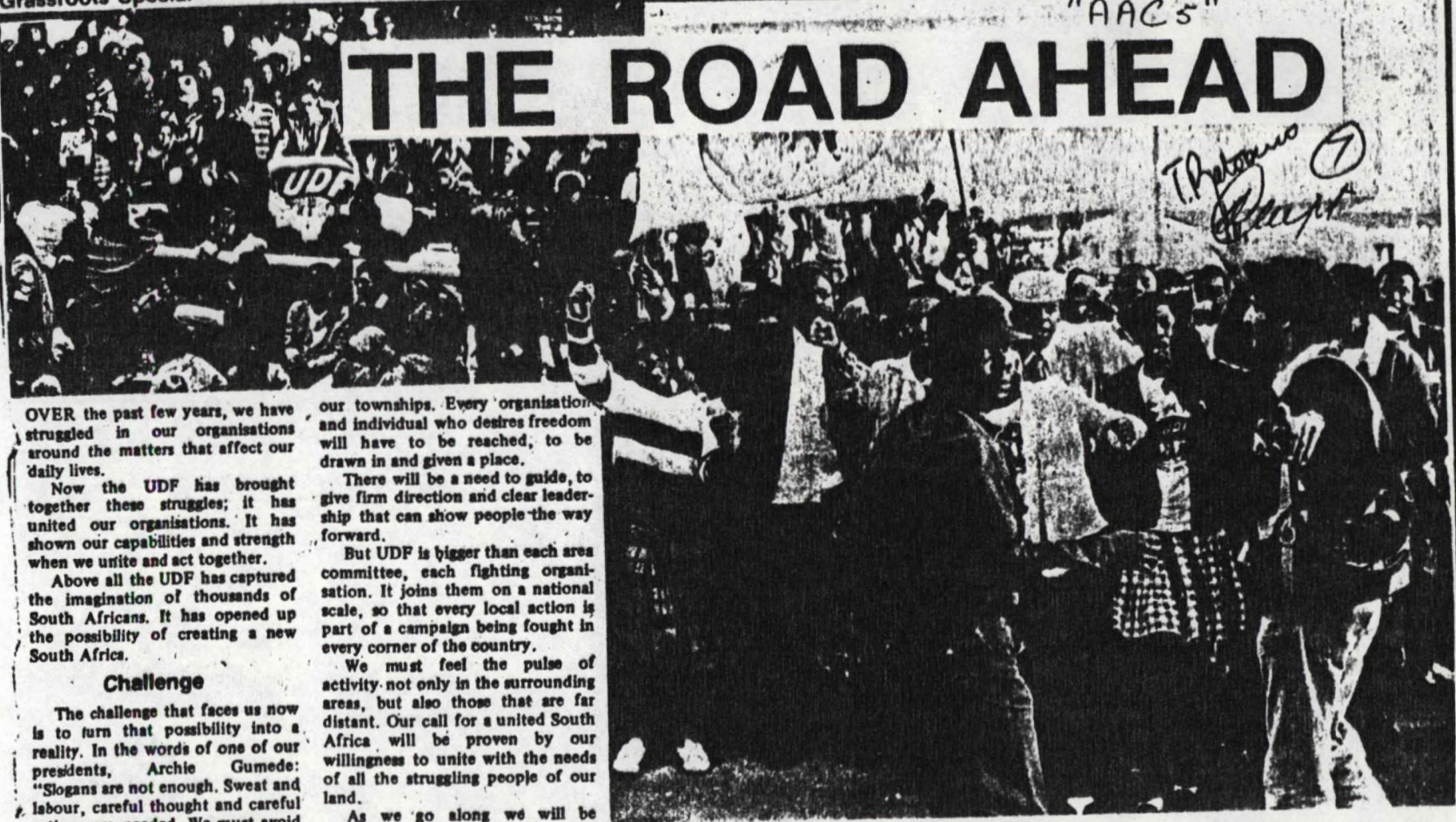


"AACs"

# THE ROAD AHEAD



OVER the past few years, we have struggled in our organisations around the matters that affect our daily lives.

Now the UDF has brought together these struggles; it has united our organisations. It has shown our capabilities and strength when we unite and act together.

Above all the UDF has captured the imagination of thousands of South Africans. It has opened up the possibility of creating a new South Africa.

## Challenge

The challenge that faces us now is to turn that possibility into a reality. In the words of one of our presidents, Archie Gumede: "Slogans are not enough. Sweat and labour, careful thought and careful actions are needed. We must avoid adventures, and we must act consciously and with determination until we overcome."

We must build on our experience of struggle. Our strength and power lies firstly in our organisations. Our civics and our trade unions, our youth, women and student organisations have brought us this far. Through the UDF we must extend and deepen these organisations.

Our organisations have always started from the problems people face in their daily lives. Now UDF poses a new task. The issues that we take up, our everyday experience of oppression must be linked to the government's new plans.

Our organisations must now see further than their own immediate concerns. They must set up area

our townships. Every organisation and individual who desires freedom will have to be reached, to be drawn in and given a place.

There will be a need to guide, to give firm direction and clear leadership that can show people the way forward.

But UDF is bigger than each area committee, each fighting organisation. It joins them on a national scale, so that every local action is part of a campaign being fought in every corner of the country.

We must feel the pulse of activity not only in the surrounding areas, but also those that are far distant. Our call for a united South Africa will be proven by our willingness to unite with the needs of all the struggling people of our land.

As we go along we will be making our own future. UDF shows us the power that lies in our hands. As we use that power our confidence will grow. We will learn things we never dreamed were possible. We will discover new abilities and perform tasks that we never imagined.

## Declaration

At all stages, we need to assess our forces, to understand our situation and to find a way out. With our feet firmly on the ground, with our minds clear, we will go forward.

In this, our Declaration and working principles will guide and teach us. They will be the firm rock on which we anchor ourselves. They point to the tasks ahead.

IN our struggle our goal is freedom. On the way, however, there are many obstacles and tasks. We must face them now or we will never get to where we are going.

Already on the horizon obstacles that we cannot ignore. In September, the government plans to hold management committee elections throughout the country.

For years now, these puppet bodies have been party to our oppression. They have been party to our removal under the Group to the dust and wind of the Cape Flats, to the high rents and poor living conditions under which we are forced to live.

They will be the backbone of

lines. He wishes to convince us that these bodies will put power in our hands and give us a say in our own affairs.

They will demand money from us to pay for the services and maintenance that our areas need. In return for our sweat and labour we are asked to accept these measly offerings. We are asked to join in our own oppression by supporting these junior partners of apartheid.

In the next few weeks then, we must say loudly and clearly, NO! to these plans. We demand a full say over every part of our lives.

We must also say NO! to Koornhof's plans and schemes. He plans to smarten the dress

give them a new name and increase their powers. But it is power to demand higher rents from us, police us, to send us off to Khayalitsha. These plans are also meant to divide us, to separate us in Guguletu from those in Mitchells Plain.

Yet we will all face the same toothless and brainless bodies. For us, community councils and management committees are but obstacles in our path. Our goal is in the distance and yet we see it clearly.

Our demand is clear and nothing less will do. We want a direct say in the affairs that govern our lives. In the face of the plans of Heunis and Koornhof, we say again: "South Africa belongs to all who live in it. We

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