

# AGAINST BOTHA'S PLANS

DA26

## FOR FULL DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS!

The spectre that is haunting the apartheid state today is the spectre of unity. In the 1940s, when the liberation struggle was first given a programmatic basis, those whose thinking shaped the programme realized that the essence of struggle was unity of the oppressed. The organizations of the people in the 1940s and 1950s were structured in a way that was designed to build unity. They were also designed to ensure maximum participation of their members so as to build democracy. The state sought to divide us; our organizations sought to unite us. The state sought to extend its dictatorship over us; our organizations sought to extend democracy among us.

During the 1960s the organizations of the people were crushed. The state intended to destroy unity of the oppressed before it became too powerful for the state to control. The same period saw the implementation of apartheid theory which the state had legalised in the 1950s. The separate locations and homelands were and remain an assault on the unity of the oppressed which the state fears above all else. At the same time, new and ever more repressive "security" laws sought to stifle the rebirth of organizations among the oppressed.

The 1970s revealed that not even ten years of savage repression could break the foundations of unity and democracy which the people's organizations had laid so strongly in the years before 1960. Mass struggles even more vehement than those of the 1950s advanced the liberation struggle in the 1970s and 1980s, and organizations of the people were reborn in the streets, in the factories, on the sports fields, and in the schools and universities. Basic to these struggles was the concept of unity of the oppressed and its corollary, rejection of the apartheid state and its organs, whether these were liaison committees, "homeland" leaders, management committees, multi-national sports clubs, or "gutter" education departments. It was fitting that the new chapter in the history of the liberation struggle should have opened with the 1973 Durban strike; in this period the working class has moved to the frontline of struggle. Working class organization has grown powerfully in many forms. Workers have organised in trade unions at their work places, in civic organizations in their communities, in non-racial sports clubs and in women's organizations. The sons and daughters of the working class have organised in student organizations at schools, colleges and universities.

In a hundred ways, on a hundred levels, there has been unity. There is, firstly, unity of purpose. All these organizations are committed to the national liberation struggle. There is no progressive trade union which does not insist on non-racialism as a principle, for instance. That is, trade unions insist on a political unity of the oppressed. Apartheid is rejected, together with works and liaison committees. The same commitment to the liberation struggle is found in civic organization. In the midst of their struggle for maintenance and rents we can afford, civic organizations reject management committees and community councils as dummy bodies of apartheid. Civic organizations are the local government of the people, in other words; bodies that directly represent their communities on a local level. Civics are therefore democratic structures.

There has also been unity in action, such as the support committees for the Leyland strike of 1981 or the Wilson-Rowntree strike of 1981, 1982

[REDACTED]

The Labour Party has been rejected for its acceptance of the PC proposals. Accepting these proposals means accepting apartheid. Accepting the Koornhof bills means accepting apartheid. There is no question of our accepting apartheid. The rejection of these measures is proof of our unity and of our commitment to democracy.

The state knows that it has lost the battle to divide the hearts and minds of the oppressed. It sees resistance everywhere, in every organization of the people. It sees all these organizations rallying to the cause of the workers at Leyland and Wilson-Rowntree under the banner: "An injury to one is an injury to all". It sees them rallying to the cause of freedom of movement under the banner [REDACTED]

It sees them rallying to the cause of the full franchise in rejecting the Labour Party sell-out. It sees the unity in struggle of the oppressed. It sees the growth in democratic organizations of the people. The apartheid

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DA216

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When the Disorderly Bill Action Committee was established in 1982, Civic Bodies, Sporting Organisations, Women's Organizations, Trade Unions and Students' and Youth Organizations participated. Organizations have united to fight against the enforcement of an inhuman law. There is nation-wide opposition to the Koornof Bills and to the President's Council's proposals.

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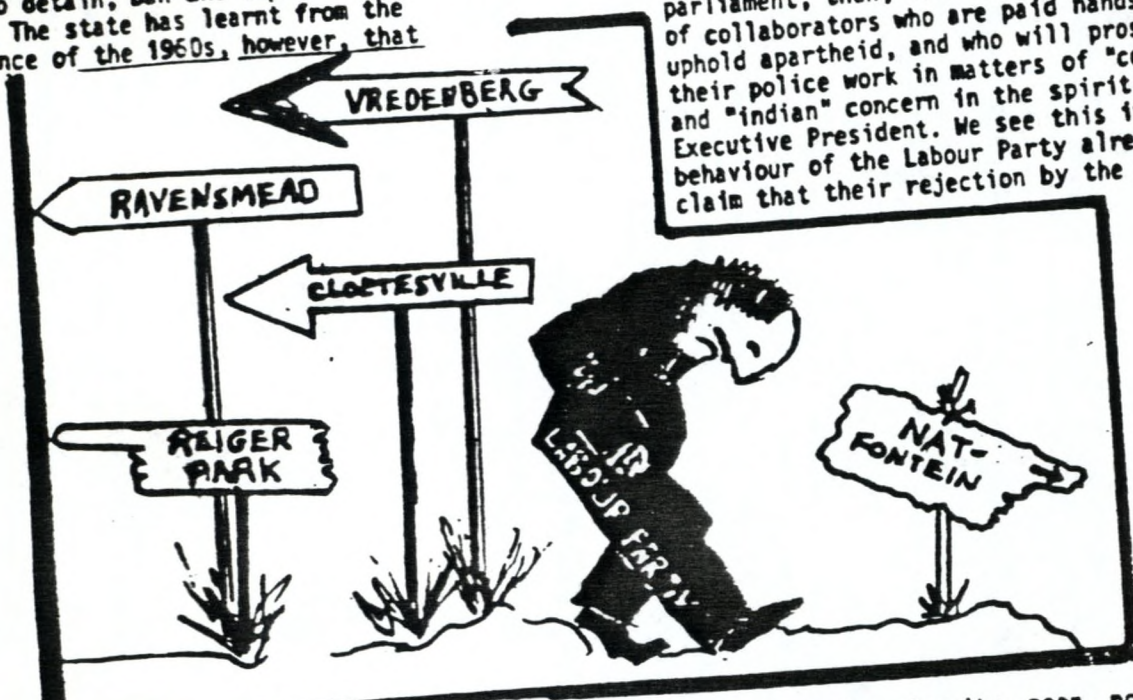
organizations of the people. The apartheid

state must engage in a fight to the death. That fight becomes more vicious as the days of its enduring grow less. The state, now desperate, will resort to desperate measures. The only road left to apartheid is the road of military dictatorship, of naked terror, of undisguised fascism. That road the state will now take.

The PC proposals and the Koornhof bills thus seek simultaneously to establish a Presidential dictator in the person of an Executive President and to increase the authority (on a local level) of collaborators. The Executive President and his nominated cabinet will extend the police power of the state to detain, ban and imprison those who resist. The state has learnt from the experience of the 1960s, however, that

entrench the collaborationist petit bourgeois layers of the oppressed "coloureds" and "indians" in the same way as the "homelands" policy has entrenched the collaborationist petit bourgeois layers of the oppressed "blacks". ALL REAL POWER REMAINS IN THE HANDS OF THE EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT AND HIS NOMINATED CABINET. He will be elected by an electoral college of 88, consisting of 50 "whites", 25 "coloureds" and 13 "indians". In fact, therefore, he will be elected by 50 "white" MPs, which represents 0,00017% of the population. So much for the full franchise!

The real function of the tricameral parliament, then, is to increase the number of collaborators who are paid handsomely to uphold apartheid, and who will prosecute their police work in matters of "coloured" and "indian" concern in the spirit of the Executive President. We see this in the behaviour of the Labour Party already, who claim that their rejection by the people is



detention and imprisonment cannot destroy resistance. It is necessary to undermine the organizations of the people by undermining their power as the voices of the people. The new "local authorities" of the PC proposals and the Black Local Authorities Act, with extended con- locations and ghettos mine the power of the and sporting organizat The effective boycott councils and manager become more difficult. powerful is the weapon of the boycott. the extension of the authority of local councils and committees represents the attempt on the part of the state to disarm us of the weapon of the boycott.

the work of a minority, soon, no doubt, to be called "a few agitators". They will continue to claim the people's support while avoiding confrontation with the people. They will continue to support the PC proposals.

Has Sebe condemned the Koornof bills ?

On the national level, no less than on the regional and local lev to weaken the position in the national libera have seen that the dic the Executive Presider destruction of the les liberation movement. 1

non-collaboration with dummy governments, whether they are part of a tricameral parliament or of a "homeland". We shall resist all attempts to buy our collaboration whether the con-men are members of the Labour Party, the Black Alliance or the S.A. Cricket Union. We shall use the weapon of

we shall destroy the PC - proposed parliament and the Black Local Authorities Act dummy council as NRC, the CRC and the CPC.

democracy for which we have struggled so long.

of local committees and committees will for the destruction of the organizations of tricameral parliament will

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