

C25

54 (c)

Mr Chairman and Comrades, I am honoured to be able to address this conference of our youth in AZASO and to bring you greetings from the Transvaal Anti-PC. We are proud of you for the hardships you had to face and the struggle you have waged under great odds to acquire the education which is handed to the youth of white South Africa in splendour and luxury and which they often trample under foot or used to enslave their fellow youth. We salute you for the struggle you have waged that all our youth, Black and white, can take their place in the ranks of the free youth of the world. But we particularly salute you for the proud tradition of struggle you have brought to our movement for liberation from racism, oppression and exploitation.

You can witness today a rising tide of anger and determination to break the bonds of racism, oppression and exploitation. There is a growing unity and struggle which is sweeping throughout our country. From Lamatville, KwaMashu and Mbantseane on our eastern coast to Vryburg, Kamekwa and Zeerust on our borders with Botswana, from Mitchell's Plain, Crossroads and Lange to Pieterburg and Tzaneen on our northern borders the flames of freedom burning in

The hearts and minds of our people are daily
 burning more brightly. The anger of our youth
in the schools of Cradock is mirrored in the
schools of Atteridgeville as a growing crisis of education
facing our country. The anger of our people
 in their plastic shelters at Crossroads is
 mirrored in the lands of the Be-magopa or the
 people of Leandra as a crisis of land and
 security. The angry marches of our people
 in Mitchell's Plain against rising prices and
 demands for a decent livelihood is reflected
 in the strikes in the motorcar plants on the
 Witwatersrand + Pretoria or of angry miners in
 Natal confronted by armed police as a crisis
 of production where those who produce the goods
 are no longer prepared to be robbed of their
 sweat and labour to fatten the rulers. The
 heroes funeral given to Clifford Brown in East London,
branded as a terrorist is mirrored in the crowds
 of Soweto, Mamelodi + Atteridgeville marching to
 June 16 commemorative services in the face of
armed police in their huggos + sneeze machines
and with gun and police dog as the crisis
of a people determined to determine their own
destiny in the country of their birth. This
 heaving and swelling, like the mighty sea,
 is embracing wider and wider circles of our
 people - in the schools, colleges + universities,
in the churches, mosques and community, on
the factory shop floor, building site and
mine complex. As these waves roll more

and more in unison they are going to sweep
away racialism, oppression and exploitation. We
must remember also that coupled with this rising
mood for change there is also an economic
crisis. There is a marked decline in the real
growth rate of the economy, while prices are rising
because the capitalist wants his pound of flesh.
The state is unable to resolve, or even lessen,
the problems of education, unemployment,
escalating cost of living, grossly inadequate housing
etc. It can not provide the schools, houses
hospitals and jobs needed because it has
to feed a growing war machine in Namibia
on our borders and a massive police force
within our borders. There is bound to be
growing social conflict between oppressed and
oppressor.

Those who rule over us, those who reap
the benefit of our labour and those who
plunder the resources of our country are
seeing the dark storm clouds of our
people anger on the horizon. Those who
impose their will on us because they
have guns are fast realizing that their
prisons, armoured cars, mirages and
machine guns are not going to stop
us from achieving our freedom. Gone
are the days when we meekly submitted
and voiced our anger in private. Gone
for ever are the days when we as

unorganised workers, community or students they could simply impose their will on us and to hell with the consequences. They are no longer sleeping comfortably. They understand that the gathering storm can not be stopped by their arsenals of murderous weapons. Those murderous weapons can not produce the lifeblood of this country - gold, diamonds, coal, iron, meat, maize, clothing and all the many products of an industrial society. That lifeblood is produced by the toiling masses. Those masses have learnt of their massive strength as an organised working class. Our students have learned that their crisis of education is not going to be resolved on the classroom floor but in the political arena. We have learned from the victories of the people of Mozambique, Angola and Zimbabwe that as an organised and united people we shall win our liberation.

The rulers understand that all this spells an end to oppressive South Africa where we are docile cheap labour to produce the wealth to keep them in luxury. They are sharpening their efforts to look for allies, quislings and traitors in our ranks. The striving is never before to divide us. For their oppressive system to survive, and remembering the coming economic

crisis they have to broaden their social base. But their dilemma is that while they have to enlarge their social base they also have to retain the support of all those who benefit by their exploitation of the Blackman. Thus at every stage of the racial tricameral parliament the voting ratios are loaded to give the whites a comfortable majority over Coloureds and Indians and with Africans not even featuring. Indians and Coloureds in their separate chambers will simply be providing white South Africa with a broader political base to perpetuate the apartheid system - because that system is entrenched in the new constitution. Coloureds and Indians will be party to passing the orderly movement bill against African people whether they like it or not if they participate in the tricameral parliament. Even more, the rulers of world have achieved succeeded in making Coloured and Indian people enemies of the African people and thereby destroy the unity we have achieved over a long period of struggle. That constitution will ensure that we are party to imposing all the hated apartheid laws on our people and condemn them to poverty, disease, unemployment, starvation wages, and education for, enslavement. They would have succeeded in giving our movement a terrible blow and we will face a long hard struggle to recover.

6.

That constitution will make greater and greater demands on our people to man the racist army and fight on the borders to protect apartheid. ~~The~~ The dirty task of encircling our townships with machine guns, as in Western Township, will fall on our shoulders so that they can invade our homes and pull out our sons and daughters who are struggling for change. Those who are going into the tricameral parliament will be responsible for the blood of our children.

On the Kromhof Bills they are going to attempt to coopt sections of the urban Africa oppressed against the vast majority of exploited Africa people by selective privileges. We are all being played against each other - the slave in the kitchen thinking he is better than the slave in the field or the slave in the dining room and bedroom thinking he is better than both of them.

We dare not be fooled by the beast that is destroying us by imprisonment, starvation and slave education that suddenly he has great concern to help us run our so called own affairs. That beast which is at our neighbors door today will tomorrow tear us apart. We have heard the cry of the people of Namibia as they struggle for their

birthright. We must unite and fight a common struggle. The struggle against the constitution is not a coloured or an Indian issue. It is a struggle of all the oppressed people and those who cherish a vision of a democratic non-racial South Africa.

You must go out, in all your organisations, to the people of Kenton, Landuin, Henry, Bismarck and tell them

- the constitution offers you a junior partnership in oppression and exploitation

- you must tell them the constitution offers them cooption to implement the orderly movement bill to force Africans out of the towns

You must go out to the people of Tirolozi, Mitchels Plain + Chatsworth and tell them

- the constitution offers them a position of quishing and traitor against our struggle for liberation

- you must tell them that constitution will conscript your men to fight our sons and daughters who had to flee our borders

Let our leaders and youth who are incarcerated in the oppressors prisons, Mandela, Sisulu, Maki, Mhlengeni, Kathrada, Golding, Lubisi, Mashigo, Momo and all the many others unite us in

our determination to kindle the ~~flames~~ flames of liberation in the hearts of all our people

- Let our brave sons and daughters who had to flee our country and who are being hounded from their refuge kindle the flames of freedom to burn more brightly in all our hearts

Let those who have been so cruelly robbed of life, Mchlangu, Mogoerane, Moshodi, Motany, Joe Quabi, Ruth Fint, Griffith Mxenge, Ismail Schorn and all the many others, never forgetting those who fell as Cassiga, Mapata, Masem, Manzini and elsewhere inspire to blow those flames of freedom into raging fires of liberation until we see the dawn of a new and free South Africa coming shining through

Amandla!

I. J. Mohamed

Talk to be given at AZASO
Conference opening session
Orlando East.

4/7/84

Collection Number: AK2117

DELMAS TREASON TRIAL 1985 - 1989

PUBLISHER:

Publisher: **Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand**

Location: **Johannesburg**

©2012

LEGAL NOTICES:

Copyright Notice: All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Disclaimer and Terms of Use: Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of the collection records and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

This document is part of a private collection deposited with Historical Papers at The University of the Witwatersrand.