

BEW.

V18-1 PAR 47

UDF ONE-YEAR RALLY : SELBOURNE HALL JOHANNESBURG : 19 AUGUST 1984

TAPE TWO

SPEAKERS:

1. Jerry EKANDJO (SWAPO YOUTH LEAGUE)
2. Cassim SALOOJEE (Chairman)
3. Aubrey MOKOENA
4. Prof Ismael MOHAMED
5. Frank CHIKANE

IMPORTANT PEOPLE, EVENTS AND ORGANISATIONS MENTIONED

1. SWAPO
2. OAU
3. ANTI-PC
4. MANDELA
5. SISULU
6. MBEKI
7. KATHRADA
8. GOLDBERG
9. MLANGENI
10. MOTSOLEDI
11. CASSINGA
12. MATOLA
13. MBABANE
14. MASERU

ASSESSOR

CORRECTIONS :

I, ABIE ABRAM MAHLANGU, am a Senior Interpreter in the Department of Justice, and I am stationed at the Magistrates Courts in Johannesburg.

I was requested by the Attorney-General for the Transvaal to check the transcript of this recording against the tape/cassette and bring about any corrections, if any.

I did this to the best of my ability and found this transcript to be just and correct.

A.A. MAHLANGU.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, written over the typed name 'A.A. MAHLANGU.'. The signature is highly cursive and extends upwards and to the right.

O P M E R K I N G S

1. Hierdie is 'n transkripsie van die klank vanaf die video bandopnames soos ontvang. Die transkripsie is so akkuraat as moontlik en is so ver as moontlik woordeliks korrek.
2. Verskillende sprekers kon van mekaar uitgeken word op die opnames en hulle word direk aangedui binne die transkripsie. Die akkuraatheid van die aangeduide sprekers is nagegaan in oorleg met die beeld op die video opnames.

NB Die transkripsie van enigiets wat deur die aangeduide spreker gesê word, begin altyd aan die linkerkant van die bladsy. Op verskeie plekke is daar uitings vanaf 'n enkele ander onbekende persoon, of vanaf 'n aantal persone uit die gehoor. Sulke opmerkings of ander uitings word op een van die volgende maniere aangedui:

- (1) Uitinge van 'n enkele ander onbekende persoon, begin nie aan die linkerkant nie, maar 'n aantal spasies na regs.
 - (2) Gesamentlike uitings van 'n aantal mense uit die gehoor, is ingeskuif na regs en word in vet letters uitgedruk.
 - (3) In sommige gevalle word slegs 'n beskrywing gegee van die geluide wat gehoor word, en dit word dan in hakies aangedui.
3. Enige teks tussen hakies is kommentaar en is nie die direkte geluide vanaf die bandopname nie. So byvoorbeeld word agtergrondgeluide en ander opvallende klanke tussen hakies aangedui. Enige ander moontlike kommentaar soos byvoorbeeld "Interruption in the recording" word ook in hakies binne die transkripsie aangedui.

4. 'n Vraagteken in hakies na 'n woord of 'n sin, dui op 'n mate van onsekerheid oor die korrektheid daarvan.
5. Woorde, sinsdele of sinne wat heeltemaal onverstaanbaar is, byvoorbeeld weens swak opname, geraas of waar sprekers gelyk praat, word aangedui met stippellyne, byvoorbeeld "I know ...".
6. Waar woorde of sinne onderbreek word, word dit aangedui deur 'n koppelteken na die woord of gedeelte daarvan, byvoorbeeld "Ek het gist- nee eergister vir hom gesien".
7. 'n Heropname van die video band is gemaak vanaf die oorspronklike video band, en is beskikbaar. om in die hof voorgespeel te word. Hierdie heropnames bly die eiendom van die SAP en sal normaalweg nie in die hof ingedien word nie.

---oOo---

Thank you Comrade Chairman".
 (Audience clap hands).

Audience stand and sing, Audience clap hands
 Amandla shouted in between.
 Mayibuye I'Afrika (X3)

(TAMBO song)

SALAJEE:

"EKANDJO, I would like to call upon AUBREY MOKOENA to read the message of support that we have received from Namibia, AUBREY ...
 (Audience clap)

AUBREY MOKOENA:

"Comrade Chair, Comrades, here are several messages of support. I'll start with the one from -eh- Comrade M C A HENGARI (phonetical), Vice-President of the NAMIBIAN NATIONAL STUDENTS ORGANISATION, NANSO. 'Dear Comrades, We greet you, all of you gathered at the first anniversary of the UDF in Johannesburg. At this crucial stage of the peoples struggle, when the apartheid regime of South Africa intends to divide the oppressed people of South Africa by incorporating the Indians and the Coloureds into a farcical election against the majority of the South African people.

We, NANSO, address ourselves to you gathered at this rally by saying that - UNITED WE STAND DIVIDED WE FALL, UDF UNITES, APARTHEID DIVIDES. We are in solidarity with you, and the struggle against the apartheid regime. We appreciate your unequivocal stand against the illegal occupation of Namibia. We also condemn the Apartheid Elections - to divide our people. We thus join all the progressive forces by saying FORWARD TO A UNITED DEMOCRATIC SOUTH AFRICA, based on the will of the people and forward towards a free and independent

Namibia'.

Amandla Audience : Awethu

We also have several messages but because of serious time constraints that we have we are not going to read all of them. We are merely going to announce them. One is from the COMMITTEE AGAINST RACISM IN CANADA.

Amandla Audience : Awethu.

The other one is from the BRITISH LABOUR PARTY.

Amandla Audience : Awethu.

The third one is from the ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT.

Amandla Audience : Awethu.

Another one is from HELEN RATE (phonetical), Medicine Head in Canada.

Amandla Audience : Awethu.

The fifth one is from EAST Lancing (phonetical) SOUTH AFRICAN LIBERATION COMMITTEE.

Amandla Audience : Awethu.

The sixth one is from the WINTERFELD (phonetical) ACTION COMMITTEE.

Amandla Audience : Awethu.

The seventh one is from the SOSHANGUVE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Amandla Audience : Awethu.

The eighth one is from the NATIONAL EDUCATION UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Amandla Audience : Awethu.

Then we have two important messages from the church, from church organisations. The one I'll read, its very brief, it says 'The FEDERATION OF EVANGELICAL CHRISTIAN ACTION salutes

he historic day of the UDF anniversary, never before did our people witness such a successful move such as the UDF has done in the history of the people committed to change and justice moreover in the South African area in spite of the harassments, -eh- propaganda arrests. The UDF has grown to maximum proportions. The FEDERATION condemns the so-called Coloured and Indian elections - apartheid constitution and the TSHABALALA's of this world, who say Apartheid is from God when apartheid, Asians and pol- and police are mowing down innocent school children.

Amandla

Audience : Awethu.

This one is a type of a circular but I'll read because it is very important. It comes from ABRECSA, which is the ALLIANCE OF BLACK REFORMED CHRISTIANS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, the new dispensation and you ABRECSA the ALLIANCE OF BLACK REFORMED CHRISTIANS IN ^{Southern} SOUTH AFRICA is the most comprehensive body among the churches of the Reformed ^{OR} of Presbyterian Tradition in South Africa, it draws its membership from eight churches, four of which are fully affiliated to ABRECSA. One of these is the UNITED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH in Southern Africa - in which the leader of the LABOUR PARTY, the REVEREND ALAN HENDRICKSE, is a practising minister, two other churches from ABRECSA draws membership but which have not affiliated as church as churches are the NG Sendingskerk of which Doctor ALLAN BOESAK, is the asesor and the Reformed Church in Africa.

The members of these churches are particularly concerned in the forthcoming elections , then I'll skip the other, then it says there, if you participate in these elections, you will be saying yes to a racially divided state, No, to a non-racial democratic society. You will also be saying Yes to ethnic and cultural division, ^{and} No, to human brotherhood. Yes to the continuation of ^{and} White dominations, ^{and} No to real shared leadership and then, it is, it is, it is in your hands to give the verdict Yes or No. The words of the prophet AMOS

still speak to us, Quote, 'Make it your aim to do what is right not what is evil so that you may live'. The quote continues: 'Let justice follow like a stream and righteousness like a river that never goes dry'. Amos the fifth chapter verse fourteen to twenty-four:

Amandla Audience : Awethu.

Unfortunately, I will not read this one it is too long. It comes from the Technikon in Mabopane. It is the report by the students. They say here that the system and the rector have distorted their version of the protest however they are trying to give their true interpretation here. Basically, the students are saying that they are fighting a just cause for a democratically elected SRC and then at the end here which is a portion that is (germane) we shall read, it says the rector has passed the report that the technikon is in recess until the 3rd September. We as the students have resolved to demand, one, the unconditional reinstatement of all students, two, the recognition and acceptance of our demand - however we realise that ours is not an isolated struggle, but a national struggle for justice in this event, we wish the UDF a happy birthday and we hope tomorrow under its flag we will win our struggle.

PHAMBILI NGOMZABALAZO WABASEBENZI (forward with the struggle of the workers)

PHAMBILI NGOMZABALAZO WABANTWANA BESIKOLE (forward with the struggle of the school children)

Amandla Audience : Awethu.

CASSIM SALOJEE:

"Detentions, harassments and all sorts of things have been done to break his will but he carried on with the good fight and his still with us and he was supposed to make a major contribution to today's gathering. Unfortunately he was kept

awake all last night because he was attending to the needs of those of our young people who were terrorised by some of the collaborators and the system and he had to ensure that most of our students were released who were arrested last night. Professor Mohamed.

PROFESSOR ISMAEL MOHAMED:

"I'm not going to make a speech, I merely want to issue a statement or give you a report. But perhaps on this first anniversary of the UDF, it's perhaps appropriate that in this concluding remarks. I pay tribute to all those who have gone out and attempted to organise our communities in the various organisations, and those who have attempted so valiantly to build up the UDF. I must pay particular tribute to the youth who have gone out and who have campaigned on a door to door basis to ensure that our people will not become party to the oppressive regime. And when I use those words, our youth of course I include - those mothers who had to leave their children at home for many nights and go out and also that tribute includes those fathers who had to look after those children. I want to talk particularly about - events of last night. You know we've gone out on many occasions and I'm talking about ANTI-PC ^{as another} ~~and~~ other organisations and we've received the brunt of the harassment of the people in cars with long aeriels and you know who they are. You know if you've experienced that perhaps yesterday morning some of us ^{had} left to campaign on the East Rand, others had gone into Eersterust to be joined by people from MEDUNSA from Mamelodi, some 180 people to campaign in Eersterust. Sometime in the evening I'd received a call while in Boksburg that some of our people ^{have} ~~had~~ been harassed, that they'd been sjambokked, that they had been chased down the streets with pangas and in fact the events as I understand them when they went into the township first of all, they were harassed, by what were - presumably, police in private clothes or reservist. These people were arrested and taken to the police station and there

first of all an attempt with their pamphlets to be confiscated but thereafter - decided that in fact they had engaged in a legal campaign and allowed to go free again. Later that same evening, thugs and it is very clear where those thugs came from, they are members of the party who are becoming, of the parties who are becoming party to the regime and those men in the long, in the cars with long aerals. They were the people who then had chased our people with sjamboks, beaten them up, chased them with pangas and in the confusion our people when I say our people of course, I mean all those activists whether its from ANTI-PC or MEDUNSA or from Mamelodi and Atteridgeville who campaigned in that particular area. Those people were arrested. In the confusion and fleeing from people with the panga's people lost some of their friends and comrades, not sure whether those were detained. They drew up a list of some 80 people that were missing and the police will not give them a list of the numbers of people that were actually held in those hours round about 9 , 10 o'clock, 11 o'clock at night. What then happened we had discovered subsequently when it was agreed when had summoned the attorneys to present our case for the release of our activists.

And when some of the UDF officials had spent time there to try and get these people from detention, we had discovered that some 16 girls were held and some 36 men. Whereas our numbers had shown that something like 80 were missing. And you can think of the worries that people had gone through to know what has happened to the other plus or minus 25 to 30 people, whether they were caught in the hands of the thugs or where they would be. Well eventually in fact in the early hours of the morning some of those activists were let free, one at a time - and in fact we'd experienced various kinds of harassments as we tried to stand in a police station to get the names to check against - our list, so that we can trace the comrades who were lost.

Well eventually in fact this 36 men were released and the 16 women and it's - only then that we could discover that in fact some of the people had gone out with us we were not, we could not account for them, by what the police held. It had subsequently emerged that some had successfully fled the township and had made their own way into MEDUNSA and from where I believe that they have probably returned safely home. Some of us had stayed there in fact, until the morning, in fact, one young girl is still being held and we tried to get her released up to - about one o'clock and unsuccessfully and were told that she will be charged tomorrow, only. And the funny reason we are being that the charge is being laid by a White policewoman and the investigating officer is a Coloured policeman and he has no authority to investigate a case involving a White police woman and therefore she can only be charged on Monday, and she can only appear in court on Tuesday and so bail cannot be given until then. You know those are the events of Eersterus, they're not isolated events, they're events perhaps with added brutality but the events that have appeared are happened elsewhere.

You know I want to say we know our people have been harassed elsewhere and we want to remind the HENDRICKSE and the RAJBANSI's and the POOVALINGAMS, and all the other traitors and sellouts; that those sjamboks with which they ~~are blooded~~ have bloodied our youth, those sjamboks will still haunt them in the years to come, those sjamboks will haunt them like the blood of our youth that have been shattered by those who rule over us with the gun in places like Cassinga and Matola, Maseru and elsewhere so many of our places that we can name. Its gonna haunt those people like that blood is going to haunt those who rule over us. But in these concluding remarks I also have to say to you I'd like to touch on one particular event. We must remind the HENDRICKSE's and the RAJBANSI's that part of the task that they are going to perform or the price that we are

going to pay for the deed that they are going to perform is the conscription of our children to fight the people in Namibia and to fight the children, our children who have fled these borders. It is our children that will surround these townships and carry out the dirty deeds that were carried out last night. It will have to be our children when they are conscripted that will carry out the dirty deeds as we saw in 1981 when the army encircled Western township and the Security Police went into the homes, hauled out our youth and dragged them off to the police stations. And when our mothers and fathers protested or the mothers and fathers of those children protested, they were driven down the streets by the army. We say in fact to HENDRICKSE and RAJBANSI that, that kind of dirty deed will become the dirty deed that our children will have to perform, because you are becoming party to this new parliament. And therefore we want to say to them very clearly as has been said by other speakers, that we have already paid a terrible price in this country, we've paid a price to get our land back again. And we are not prepared in fact to shed the blood of our children. We are not prepared to become party to that regime. We say also to those that are going to vote that they too will be criminal partners to that blood of our children.

Finally, I must say to our people when I pay tribute to our youth who have gone out and have built the UDF and have gone into our communities I must say to them of course there lies, there lie a year ahead and so many other years.

We must remember that we are still herfiots^{1/0fx} in the land of our birth.

We must remember that we still have to achieve our freedom. We must remember that we still have our youth and those who have fled our borders to return to this country. You must remember in fact that the elections of 22nd and the 28th of

August is not the end of the door to door campaign. We must mobilise more and more of our people to go out, to mobilise in fact all of our communities and I want to say to you that at perhaps, at so many times and other places, we must go out as I believe you have done to light the flames of freedom in more and more of the hearts of our people. And when we do this, let us remember in fact those who are languishing in the prisons, we remember our leaders MANDELA, SISULU, MBEKI, KATHRADA, GOLDBERG, MLANGENI, MOTSOALEDI and others.

When we light those freedom, fight those flames of freedom we will remember that we are lighting them so that our leaders can return to our country. We also, when we go out, we know that we have lit those flames of freedom in many hearts. And you know we must be encouraged by those of our youth who have died in the places that I've named like CASSINGA, MATOLA, MBABANE, MASERU and so many other places. Let them give us courage in fact to blow those flames into raging fires. And we will be able to see, in fact, the dawn of a new South Africa come shining through, we hope that, that will come not many birthdays ahead of the UDF.

Amandla Audience : Awethu
(Audience clap hands)

CASSIM SALOJEE:

"Just one little announcement that the TRANSVAAL INDIAN CONGRESS is climaxing its campaign against the constitution with a mass meeting in Lenasia. And this meeting will be held on the 23rd August at 7h30 at the Civic Centre. Among the speakers will be DR ALAN BOESAK who is our patron, ALBERTINA SISULU and IMAM SOLOMONS from Cape Town, and we urge you to attend this meeting. There's one last resolution which will be read by FRANK and then we will sing the National Anthem.

FRANK CHIKANE:

"There is a Resolution on the harassment of our people, firstly I would like us to remember that MLUNGISI SISULU (phonetical), JAKUNZI SISULU (phonetical), MANDISA SISULU (phonetical), AMOS MASONDO (phonetical), RITA NTZANGA (phonetical) and MR POLOTO (phonetical), are still in detention, and we should not forget them. The resolution reads, this mass rally of the UNITED DEMOCRATIC FRONT held to observe the first anniversary of the UDF at the City Hall, Johannesburg on this date notes with concern the increasing harassment and intimidation of the political opponents of apartheid in an attempt to hinder and sabotage the present anti-election campaign of the UDF, and all progressive forces. We condemn this harassment and intimidation and demand our right to freely canvass against the coming elections without fear or favour. Thank you.

SALAJEE:

"Thank you (Audience clap hands)
Comrade AUBREY MOKOENA will now lead us in singing the National Anthem.

AUBREY MOKOENA

"I will request our mother comrade ALBERTINA SISULU to present a humble gift, token actually a little "T"-shirt from the RMC to our comrade JERRY EKANDJO, so as to strengthen our ties, they must indeed not forget us, I would like our mother at this juncture to present this humble gift here -eh - on behalf of the UDF
(Audience clap hands)

Shall we rise now in solemnity as we chant the, the National Anthem

(MOKOENA riases his right hand with fist clenched and leads

the audience in singing the National Anthem NKOSI SIKELELI
AFRIKA, the audience and persons on stage respond likewise)
(SALAJEE and CHIKANE can be seen on stage).

In Zulu:

Amandla Audience : Awethu

Amandla Audience : Awethu

Amandla Audience : Awethu

(video interruption)

CHIKANE:

"Can we, when leaving this hall (video interruption)

(Scene changes to outside where policemen and police vehicles
can be seen)

(Video interruption)

(Scene of children with "DON'T VOTE" stickers. Walking in the
street, tearing off placards of registered voters).

} Note
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