

AJ 49-54

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Adm [UDF ~~that~~ Jhb.]

19 July 1984

Dear ~~Comrade~~ President

The United Democratic Front - a broad alliance of political, worker, women, youth, religious, sport, professional and civic organisations of the people of South Africa - has followed closely and with grave concern events of the last few months in the Southern African region. And because of the central role in which Mozambique has featured we are determined to communicate our views on some of the issues to you and the people of Mozambique.

The Nkomati Accord aside the reported assertion by the Mozambican Chief of the Army, Comrade Sebastiao Mabote, in an interview with Pierre Huski of Liberation, that the South African struggle is a mere civil rights issue has not only caused consternation, it has also not found acceptability among us. We, therefore, wish to seek clarification on this statement and also to state our view on the matter.

The South African struggle, as you are no doubt aware, is a struggle against colonialism albeit, colonialism in a special type. This country was initially invaded by the Dutch and later comprehensively conquered by the English at the turn of the century.

Then in 1910 Britain passed political power into the hands of the white settler population against the wishes of the other sections of the population. Since then Whites have monopolised the rule of this country contending themselves with a systematic and violent repression of the aspirations of the other national groups. This state of affairs remains unchanged even under the so-called new constitutional dispensation.

It is, therefore, abundantly clear that the present regime is not the government of the people of South Africa but one arbitrarily installed by imperialist countries. Its express role is to check our people's resistance against the exploitation of the human and mineral resources of the country. Obviously such a government has no legitimate to govern over the people of South Africa.

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13/8  
To suggest, therefore, as Comrade Mabote's reported sentiments does, that the South African struggle is a mere civil rights affair is to mistakenly lend legitimacy and credibility to a minority colonial regime. And we cannot object in the strongest of terms.

Let us, however, hasten to remark that the South African struggle, like all other struggles, has both national and international dimensions. And to that extent freedom and peace-loving people around the world - and that includes the people of Mozambique - have a role in it as well. But the primacy of the role of South Africans must always be recognised and respected.

It is our view, that in the struggles that are being waged against oppression, exploitation and imperialist plunder the peoples of the particular countries in which these struggles are being waged must enjoy the right to determine for themselves the conditions and interpret the nature and stages through which such struggles go.

It was in this spirit that throughout the Mozambican struggle South Africans refrained from interpreting for Mozambicans their struggle, but, instead, contended themselves with taking the cue, in the final analysis, from Frelimo as the spearhead of that struggle. Obviously this is correct because it is only as the oppressed and exploited masses carry the responsibility for their freedom that what freedom is won will benefit them. This is valid for our country and her people too. We shall appreciate clarification on this matter, Comrade President, if our response is not correctly conceived.

Finally, we salute Frelimo and the gallant people of Mozambique for the heroic struggle they waged against their erstwhile Portuguese colonisers. We shall forever show inspiration from their performance.

Your continuing struggle against the counter revolutionary RAR, which is set on undermining present efforts to eradicate the colonial after-effects of starvation, disease, poverty, illiteracy, lack of housing, etc, enjoys our people's full backing too.

Long live the Mozambican revolution!

Long live Frelimo, the leaders and people of Mozambique!

Long live the friendship and co-operation of the peoples of South Africa and Mozambique!

Long live the co-operation of Frontline states!

Long live the international struggle against oppression and exploitation!

Yours in the struggle for justice and peace.

MOSIUOA LEKOTA  
NATIONAL PUBLICITY SECRETARY

**UNITED DEMOCRATIC FRONT****UDF UNITES! APARTHEID DIVIDES!**

NATIONAL OFFICE

KHOTSO HOUSE  
42 DE VILLIERS STREET  
JOHANNESBURG  
P.O. BOX 10366  
TEL: 29-1916  
29-1917

25 July 1984

The Prime Minister  
Prime Minister's Office  
MBABANE  
Swaziland

Sir

The National Executive Council of the United Democratic Front has followed with grave concern events of the last few months in Southern Africa and, in particular, the role that Swaziland has and continue to exert on trends surrounding the South African struggle.

Two issues - the secret land deal and the treatment of South African refugees by your government - have constrained the National Executive to instruct that your government be informed as follows below.

The people of South Africa were shocked to discover that the government of Swaziland had concluded a secret deal two years ago - with the minority government of our country. As we understand it the deal was that the present government was to pass to Swaziland the considerably large parts of Ingwavuma and Kwa-Ngwane to the Swaziland authorities. With these parts would go those of our people who are settled in them.

This offer, as you are no doubt aware, was made without consultation with those people who were about to be stripped of their S African citizenship and, above all, without consultation with the rest of the people of South Africa. These arbitrary practices are a common feature of the treatment of Black South Africans by the present government of South Africa.

However, the clandestine dealings of Swaziland with Mr P W Botha's government is a matter of deep disappointment to many S Africans and, can only serve to lay the foundation for mistrust and mutual suspicion between our peoples in future. For instance, it is not clear what commitments Swaziland made to the South African government in exchange for such large chunks of S African territory as Ingwavuma and Kwa-Ngwane.

In the circumstances, it is not far-fetched to surmise, as many are already doing, that the harassment of South African refugees, and wholesale arrests and reported torture while in detention, of opponents of the apartheid policies of the South African government by Swaziland officials could only have been part of the agreements concluded between you and S Africa. And this is plausible if one considers that the immediate objective of the South African government is not only to stem the tide of our people's resistance but, in particular, to stamp out their established organisations. This is the obvious demand the Nationalists would have tabled in your secret negotiations.

We can only hope that Swaziland did not commit herself to fighting side by side with the Apartheid masters against our people. Such a circumstance would not only violate the Charter of the Organisation of African Unity and U N Declaration of Human Rights but, it would also undermine for a long time to come co-operation, and peace between and security for our respective peoples.

It is in the light of these serious implications that the National Executive Council wishes to urge your government, if only for the sake of our respective peoples, African unity and lasting world peace to review its position vis-a-vis the present S A government and, especially, the extent of its commitment to the present S African regime.

This letter is written with brutal frankness and deep sincerity and it is hoped that it will be received in that spirit. Furthermore, we shall appreciate it if clarification is forthcoming where our views are not correctly received.

Thank you.

Sincerely



M. LEKOTA  
PUBLICITY SECRETARY

K,  
Re "A J S I"

1984/07/16

The Secretary  
SWAPO NAMIBIA

Dear Comrades

We wish to make a follow up on the disicion between comrade Ja Toivo and four comrades, Lekota and Moosa at the Jan Smuts Airport on March 8 1984 and the subsequent telephonic conversation between myself and comrade Nico Bassinger, On both occasions we proposed a meeting between the United Democratic Front and the SWAPO of NAMIBIA.

Today four months after the initial discussion on the need for talks between yourselves and ourselves it is now our considered opinion that the matter has assumed even greater urgency. Apart from the need for an exchange of views between ourselves, developments in our country and the challenges facing us between now and the next five weeks impose on us the urgency of this meeting. In a way, there exist an interconnection between our tasks for the period stated above and your own work in particular, in Walvis Bay.

As you should know the United Democratic Front, an alliance of some six hundred (600) workers, political, women, students, youth, religious, professionals, services and etc. Organisations, was formed on August 20 1983, to oppose the new schemes of the Apartheid Government of South Africa, intended to entrench minority rule and exploitation. These defices include the new constitution which provides separate parliaments for whites, Indians and Coloureds and the so called Koornhof bills/laws promulgated especially for the Africans. These Mr. P. W. Botha the leader of the Nationalist Party has presented to the people of South Africa and the world as his brand of reform.

UDF and millions of its supporters contends that both the constitution of and the Koornhof bills/laws are far from being reforms. They are at best consolidating white domination through a method of co - option of the Coloured and Indian South Africans, whilst isolating the African majority for the most ruthless forms of oppression. They are a well orchestrated campaign to perpetually deny political rights to the Africans and obliterate completely any forms of legitimate opposition. In terms of this "new constitution", even those political parties operating within government created structures will become ineffective. The ratios are worked out in such a way that for every four (4) Whites there will be two (2) Coloureds and one (1) Indian.

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..... as for the Africans there is no representation at all. They are excluded to express their political views in the reserves called Homelands.

Since its formation the UDF has been conducting a determined campaign to frustrate the Government plans by ensuring that our people do not support these schemes. To this extent a massive anti election campaign is unfolding and will climac in mass anti election rallies throughout South Africa on 19 August 1984, to which we invite comrade Ja Toivo as a speaker.

&

It has come to our attention that the Coloured community in Walvis Bay, an area generally accepted as part of Namibia has decided to be part of the Republic of South Africa and are currently being canvassed by the reactionary Labour Party to support the new constitution by voting on the 22nd of August 1984. In these circumstances, we would like to implore you to consider address the problem of the Walvis Bay Colured community. Please do all in your power to talk the elections in that area. We have no least doubt in our minds that participation in these elections by a minority of the oppressed in Walvis Bay would be a set back to both SWAPO and the UDF. For SWAPO it will mean a significant number of people publicly disassociating themselves with the struggle against South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia. In respect of the UDF participating by a majority of the Colured people in that region will give credibility and legitimacy to the ethnic Coloured parliament. Apart from that it will create conditions of conflict between those participating in these structures and the masses of our people.

It is against this backdrop of the above information and several other factors that the United Democratic Front wishes to impress upon SWAPO the need for a meeting. Should our request meet (in particular that for a meetint) with your favourable response we would prefer to meet you before elections for the tri - cameral parliament on 22 and 28 August 1984. We think that this meeting will have an added boost to our anti - election campaign.

We are looking forward to meeting you!

Yours in the struggle

POPO MOLEFE (SECRETARY GENERAL)

Box "AJ 50"

AJ 50

The Secretary  
Aktionsgruppe Früchteboykott Südafrika  
A - 1050 WIEN  
Arbeitergasse 26

20 22/9/85

Dear Friends,

We are in ~~support~~ <sup>receipt</sup> of your letter of encouragement and we thank you most heartily for the support you have ~~shown~~ <sup>given</sup> our Front.

that is

We especially, value your efforts to educate the Austrian public about the economic connection between your country and the Apartheid government in this country. Indeed, your motto: "We do not buy food from South Africa!" is most appropriate. ~~It is~~ <sup>very</sup> for children of these ~~African~~ Black workers who produce the food exported to your country ~~not~~ eat that food. Because of racial discrimination in employment Black workers are paid ~~for~~ <sup>meagre</sup> a ~~little~~ <sup>a</sup> wage to be able to buy food. As a result Black children ~~do~~ <sup>only</sup> see such products of their parents' labour <sup>in</sup> advertisement but never taste it.

Above all, however, we ~~urge~~ <sup>urge</sup> you to persuade the people of Austria to return a government which, unlike the present one, will not cooperate with the Apartheid rulers of SA. <sup>to SA</sup> ~~of~~ proposed visit by Fr. Norbert Steger, vice-chancellor and minister of trade <sup>in your country</sup> is one example of the type of <sup>close</sup> association we are talking about. That visit will be used to <sup>further</sup> <sup>trade</sup> tighten relations ~~and~~ between the two governments.

The people of South Africa are aware of these manoeuvres and do



not approve of the present Austrian coalition administration stand ~~with~~ regarding Apartheid. Its policy seems to be a determination to make the most economic gains ~~out~~ <sup>in</sup> this country without concern for the oppressed sections of our population. Such a policy can only harm the image of Austria in this country and elsewhere in the world. It will make it ~~difficult~~ <sup>the task</sup> of reconciliation between our respective people ~~very~~ difficult after the overthrow of Apartheid in this country.

Finally, we salute your organisation and other progressive organisations and individuals ~~in your country~~ <sup>in Austria</sup> who are supporting our struggle. We wish you greatest success in future and <sup>we</sup> ~~we~~ assure you that ~~at the~~ when <sup>the</sup> ~~moment~~ <sup>moment</sup> of freedom ~~the~~ comes our people will remember you too.

Thank you.

Yours in the struggle for freedom,

MOSIUOA PATRICK LEKOTA  
PUBLICITY SECRETARY — UDF.

CIP

AT 53

AT 53

- Importance:
1. Australian
  2. French
  3. German
  4. Canadian
  5. Netherlands

Dear Sir

We enclose for your information a copy of a recently produced publication entitled "Repression in a time of 'reform'"

Since the publication of this booklet we have witnessed a stayaway by some 500 000 workers in the TRansvaal on 5th and 6th November. The stayaway was historic because the extent of co-operation between all progressive organisations was hitherto unprecedented. The demands of our organisations were heightened in this stayaway and it gave a clear indication of the depth of resistance at grassroots level.

Again, the government refused to heed the demands of our people. They responded once more with heavy repression by detaining 15 people in the wake of the stayaway. Those detained are all from the leadership of key organisations in the Transvaal and they are being held under the dreaded Section 29 of the Internal Security Act which allows for detention incommunicade for an indefinite period. There are strong indications that the apartheid government is preparing for a show trial through which they hope to prove that the stayaway was the work of a handful of agitators. We know that those detained had only dutifully represented the mandate of their organisations at meetings of the Stayaway Committee.

The UDF believes it important that this injustice be challenged. We appeal to you, as representative of a government committed to peace and justice in South Africa, to once again add your voice in protest against the manner in which the government is attempting to resolve the present crisis.

We know that we, the organisations to which the detainees belong and the families of the detainees can count on your support.

Yours faithfully

TREVOR MANUEL  
ACTING GENERAL SECRETARY

PIA  
P/L

Box 33

1. Copy to

1. Australian Embassy  
Private Bag X150  
Pretoria 0001.

Attn :- Mr S Etheridge.

2. Canadian Embassy  
~~Neobank Plaza~~  
~~Cor Church + Beatrix Street~~  
P.O. Box 26006  
Arcadia

Attn :- Mr E. Willis.

3. French Embassy  
807 George Avenue  
Arcadia

Attn :- The Ambassador.

4. Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany  
P.O. Box 2023

PLA  
PK

"HJ53"

5. The Netherlands Embassy  
P.O. Box 117.  
Pretoria.

**UNITED DEMOCRATIC FRONT****UDF UNITES! APARTHEID DIVIDES!**

NATIONAL OFFICE

 KHOTSO HOUSE  
 42 DE VILLIERS STREET  
 JOHANNESBURG  
 P.O. BOX 10366  
 TEL: 29-1916  
 29-1917

31 October 1984

 Thw Australlian Ambassador  
 3rd Floor,  
 302 Standard Bank Chambers  
 Church Square  
 PRETORIA

Dear Madam/Sir

All indications point to a deepening crisis in South Africa. The government seems to be increasingly less willing to address the just demands of our people and is becoming more reliant on repressive and para-military measures.

Thus, their refusal to address the demands of the Vaal Civic Association for affordable rentals and their refusal to accede to the demands of high school students serve only to exacerbate the conflict. Clearly, in the context of this conflict, military manoeuvres like Operation Palmiet amount to acts of bravado and not solutions to the problem. The decision to allow Community Councillors to establish their own police force must be seen in exactly the same light.

Democratic popular organisations like the UDF and its affiliates have been met with the same 'kragdadigheid'. Minister Le Grange's threat to ban the UDF is an example of this. We believe that the threat was not executed only because it was inopportune for the government to take such an arbitrary action at that point. However, we see the effect of the threat played out in different ways. Firstly, more UDF officials are being sought by the Security Police, possibly for a further wave of detentions. Secondly, the government is now using its surrogate bantustan leaders to execute Le Grange's threats. The UDF, COSAS and AZASO have now been banned in the Transkei. More recently, Gatsha Buthelezi's war-mongering indicate that more such acts might be in the pipeline.

In essence, this amounts to full-scale war on the UDF and, indeed, on the people of South Africa. All of this is geared to silencing the democratic voice of the people.

The UDF urges you to bring these facts, and the context within which they occur, under the attention of your government. We would highly appreciate it if your government could voice their protest with the South African government.

Thank you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully

 Trevor Manuel  
 Acting General Secretary