

The Apartheid regime bears the entire responsibility for a violent conflict in SA. The General Assembly has recognised the legitimacy of the struggle of the oppressed people and their liberation overment by all means including ~~xxx~~armed struggle... The people of SA have not only a right but also a duty to defy the Terrorism Act and other racist legislation. The execution of Mr. Mahlangu would constitute an act of ~~murder~~ murder..."

United Nations Special Committee Against Apartheid.

The hours are ticking away for the great patriot and revolutionary Solomon Mahlangu who has ~~xxxxxx~~been languishing in the notorious Pretoria Central death cell for more than 300 days. He was sentenced to death for his participation in the "Goch street" shooting in which two whites were killed. The ANC supported by progressive and peace loving ~~xxxxxx~~ governments and peoples throughout the world reject the charge that Mahlangu is a murderer. To us he is a patriot who symbolises our aspirations for a non-racial and democratic SA and our determination to fight and to make the necessary ~~xxxxxx~~ sacrifices for the achievement of this goal. Solomon has joined the gallant band of revolutionaries and martyrs like Che Guevera, Ho-Chi minh, Mini, Khayinga, Fischer and thousands of others who throughout history have emerged to take up the banner of struggle. The regime and its lackeys calls Solomon and other freedom fighters "terrorist and "murderers". Che guevera a great revolutionary who died fighting for freedom in Bolivia once wrote-

"A guerrilla fighter is a social reformer who takes up arms responding to the angry protests of his people against the oppressor. He fights in order to change the social system that keeps all his unarmed brothers in ignominy and misery"

Solomons life is a living testimony to the truth of this.

Solomon was born on ~~the~~ 10th October 1956 in Mamelodi, Pretoria. His life was typical of that of millions of other oppressed Black South Africans. He grew up under very difficult and deprived conditions. Because of the apartheid system ~~the laws denied Mrs Mahlangu~~ was denied the opportunities to bring her children up in normal ~~conditions~~ circumstances. They were denied job opportunities, ~~sufficient~~ paid starvation wages, forced to live in intolerable, overcrowded and unhealthy slums and subjected to continuous police harassment and repression. Everyday was a day of anxiety and insecurity.

Mrs Mahlangu slaved away as a "washer women" and ~~the~~ ^{her} meagre salary ~~that she~~ ^{was} ~~was~~ hardly sufficient for ~~the~~ basic necessities. However through taking on extra chores and working for many extra hours ~~a day~~ ^{and} she managed to scrape up sufficient money to enable Solomon to go to school.

Even ~~the~~ ^{the} harsh realities of apartheid was felt constantly. Their ~~uate~~ ^{poor} facilities, overcrowded classrooms, insufficiently qualified ~~few~~ ^{few} could have doubted that ~~the purpose of~~ Bantu Education

was designed to turn us into "hewers of wood and drawers of water". It was education for serfdom.

He was ^{also} acutely aware that well over 2 million Blacks were unemployed and that millions more were being forcibly removed to the so-called Homelands, and that ~~for him and many others~~ there was no security of home let alone work.

All this influenced his thinking and he developed a keen sense of hatred against injustice and oppression. However at this stage he had not yet fully grasped the true nature of our oppression, nor the forces of change and the methods of struggle.

In 1976 he entered matric ^{qualifying} intent on ~~studying hard and passing~~. Hoping that this would give him some "advantage" in the battle for survival. However the event of 1976 ~~was~~ changed the lives of Solomon and millions of others.

In that year our students ~~decided to~~ ^{ed} launch a peaceful campaign against Bantu Education. The fascist regimes response shocked the entire world.

~~In~~ Cold bloodedly over a 1000 of our finest sons and daughters were butchered, and thousands more were ~~in~~ injured and maimed. ~~for life~~. All peaceful protest was met with unbridled terror and repression.

Once again we were ^{cruelly} reminded that the racists, supported by Britain and other European powers colonised us by force of arms and that their history is ~~xxxxxx~~ filled with atrocities. We remember

Solomon, like so many others, steeled in the crucible of fire, became acutely aware that new methods of struggle and the guidance, discipline and leadership of the liberation movement was needed to ^{as sine quo non for victory} ~~destroy the apartheid system~~. ~~He xxxxxxxx~~ With others he left S^a to prepare for the struggle ahead. In April 77 he joined M^a the military wing of the ANC. During his period he showed devotion and dedication to the peoples course and excelled in all his subjects. He was a constant source of inspiration to others and eagerly awaited the day when he would return to SA to be with the people in their sufferings and in their struggles.

~~On the eve of the first anniversary of the "Soweto massacres"~~ ^{having completed his initial training} he and two other comrades (

) were infiltrated back into South Africa on the eve of the ^{first} anniversary of the "Soweto massacres". In Johannesburg they were apprehended by the police and in the ensuing shoot-out two whites were killed. The police claim to have confiscated sub-machine guns and grenades. To the oppressed people of S^a the message was clear. Their sons and daughters were returning to continue the struggle. However now they were trained and armed and if necessary prepared to use ^{revolutionary} peoples violence against the ~~terrorist~~ violence of the state. Our struggle had passed through many earlier days our people carried out militant but non violent

non-violent resistance. The regime responded with increased repression, culminating in the Sharpeville massacre and the banning of the ANC. By the 1961 it was clear that the road to freedom lay through the armed seizure of power. In that year MK-the Peoples army-was formed and its manifesto declared-

"The peoples patience is not endless. There comes a time in the life of every nation when there remains only one choice: submit or fight. That time has now come to SA".

The massacres of 76 and the subsequent banning of all Black opposition once again exposed the nature of the regime and reflected the correctness of our strategy-i.e. the combination of legal and illegal struggle for the armed seizure of power.

Solomon Mahlangu and Mondy Motloutse were brought to trial on the 26th September 1977 (the third comrade had ~~xxxx~~ evaded arrest). They had been subjected to brutal torture. Mondy Motloutse was so badly beaten that he suffered extensive brain damage and was unfit to stand trial. He ~~xxx~~ is now incarcerated in one of the regimes so called mental hospitals.

Solomon testified that he had been tortured by captain Cronwright, and lieutenants de Waal and Struwig. However the courts once again exposed their complicity by rejecting this testimony.

On 23rd March 1978 Mahlangu was found guilty of "common purpose" and sentenced to death. ~~xxxx~~ He defiantly gave the ANC salute and shouted Amandla. Even in the face of death the spirit and convictions of our people cannot be broken.

Throughout the world governments and peoples have initiated campaigns to "Save the life of Mahlangu". Almost all major governments have intervened to try to save his life. ~~xxx~~ Despite ~~xxx~~ this all efforts to get a re-trial has failed and appeal for clemency to the State President has also been rejected.

Today our thoughts are with Solomon who is languishing in ^{solitary confinement in} a death cell in Pretoria. For over a year he has been witness to one Black prisoner being executed every three days (SA has the highest execution rate in the world). He has been tormented by the ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ sad laments of the condemned, he has waited anxiously to hear of the regimes verdict and yet his spirit and convictions have not been shaken. After a recent visit Mrs. Mahlangu said

~~Let us all be inspired and moved to action by this.~~ Comrade Mahlangu is a symbol of the revolutionary Black youth of SA: the youth who have joined together with all sections of the oppressed people, under the banner of the ANC, to fight for a non-racial democratic SA, free of all exploitation and privileges.

It is not Mahlangu but Botha and his collaborators in SA., Britain, the USA., West Germany, France, Israel etc. who are the murderers. Mahlangu is a patriot who, like thousands of other oppressed Blacks, have dedicated their lives to the noble course of liberating our motherland.

Their strength courage and dedication is an inspiration to all and a clarion call to action. They symbolise the inevitable triumph of the Peoples resistance over the forces of racism and darkness in our country.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Isandlwana—an occasion when our people inflicted a crushing defeat on British imperialism. The ANC has declared 1979 to be "The year of the spear". Inspired by the heroes of the past and the present let us dedicate ourselves to the ~~struggle~~ because of freedom and seek to intensify our resistance at all levels both legal and illegal, armed and non-armed.

President

The battle lines are being drawn. Comrade Thambo-Meni recently stated—

"Instead of submitting to an already disproved invincibility of the fascist army, the best sons and daughters of our people have responded with enthusiasm to our call to swell the ranks of MK..."

Today confrontation with the racist regime is growing at ~~xxxxxx~~ every level. Our people are finding new methods of mobilisation and organisation. The resistance at Unibell, Crossroads, in the factories, schools, universities and in the so-called Homelands are some reflections of the anger and militancy of our people.

Our underground machinery, ^{with} steeled in experience, is being strengthened and consolidated. And an increasing number of armed battles between our freedom fighters and the ~~xxxxxxx~~ regimes terrorists.

We must raise the all round struggle to newer and higher levels. This is the ~~grr~~ greatest tribute we can pay to Solomon and all the other heroes of our struggle.

The ANC calls upon you to—

- Fight to save Mahlangu's life
- Fight for the release of all political prisoners and detainees.
- Make our ~~xxxxxx~~ factories, rural areas, townships, schools and universities storm centres of resistance.
- Forge a unity in action of the oppressed Africans, Coloured and Indian people
- A people united can not be defeated.
- Pick up the weapon of militants like Mahlangu and join the ANC and MK.

ving call be "Power to the People-Victory or Death".

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about 20 million Africans, the white minority cannot in any way collaborate with other Africans except to exploit them. And it is immoral that Africans should make concessions or remain neutral in the face of this problem. It is criminal that Africans should find themselves in the same political trenches as the racist minority or imperialism.

Nito — Feb. 76.

We bring to this historic first Congress of the MPLA warmest and most fraternal greetings from the NEC of the ANC, from its militants and combatants, from the workers and peasants, the women and the youth; from the entire struggling people of S.A.

We are genuinely proud that we are active participants in the making of African history here in Angola at this time. . . .

The earth-shaking victories of Frelimo and MPLA brought Southern Africa to the crossroads. But the revolutionary experience accumulated during the liberation wars ensured that the peoples' advance towards social emancipation would not be halted. . . .

The historic significance of the 1st Congress of MPLA is precisely that, for Southern Africa, like

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✓ We are in unison with the MPLA when we say that the masses of our people - the workers, peasants, rev. youth and intelligentsia, as a conscious and org. force, constitute the political army of our rev., without whom, and against whom, victory is impossible.

In their name, and in the name of the armed combatants, MK., the ANC renews its pledge to continue the struggle, to fight with arms until our strategic objective of seizure of power is achieved. The people of SA, led by the ANC and its allies, will not betray the victory of the Angolan people, led by MPR.

The ANC places on record its profound appreciation of the consistent all round support given by the MPR with a willingness which fully confirms the fact that MPR, the Govt. and people of Angola, regard as their own the rev. struggles of peoples for national and social liberation. This giving the support, Angola is being furnished to the highest aspirations of Africa, to the basic policy of the OAU, to the principles of proletarian internationalism

- Tambo Dec. 77

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THERE IS NO EASY way to
Freedom anywhere and many of
us will have to pass through the
Valley of the Shadows of death
again and again before we
reach the mountain tops of our
desires. Dangers and difficulties
have not deterred us in the
past; they will not frighten us
now. But we must be prepared
for them like men who mean
business and who do not
WASTE energy in vain talk
and idle action. The way of
preparation for action lies in
our rooting out all impurity and
indiscipline from our org. and
making it the bright and shining
instrument that will clear
its way to Africa's Freedom.
Mandela 1953.

... We believe it would be fatal to
create the illusion that external
pressures render it unnecessary for
us to tackle the enemy from
within. The centre and cornerstone
of the struggle for freedom and
democracy in SA. lies inside SA
itself. Apart from those required for
essential work outside the country,
freedom fighters are in great demand
for work inside the country.
We owe it as a duty to
ourselves and to the freedom

On the 13 January 1979, a group of 7 Umkhonto cadres were involved in a clash with racist police on the border with Botswana at Derdepoort, near Zeerust ~~xxxxx Saturday xxxxxxxx~~ One of the group was taken prisoner, one died and another was wounded. The others escaped enemy encirclement. Minister of Police James Kruger said the clash 'could be a forerunner to large scale infiltration'

Security Police chief Brigadier Coetzee identified the 'insurgents' as members of the banned ANC. He said they were heading for the Pretoria-Widwatersrand industrial complex. The regime has threatened the people of neighbouring Botswana with 'hot pursuit' raids in their search for ANC guerrillas.

SA press estimate that there have been 19 known incidents of clashes with guerrilla forces over the past two years

Sentencing of Marwane

Twenty two year old Wilford Marwane was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment by the Bophuthatswana Supreme Court for his role in Umkhonto actions in the Northern Transvaal during the Rustenburg clash on August 1 1978. Quote of Judge.

Mahlangu UN statement

Refusal of appeal for retrial

Int action

letters

need for intensified action now more urgent.

Hangings in 1978

Year of child 2 funerals and torture of 15 year old.

Political Prisoners Bulletin February 1978

draft

Max 90 Up to 20 Umkhonto we Sizwe members, now incarcerated in Smiths Khami Prison face possible repatriation to South Africa over the next few years. If sent back, they could face retrial under sa's terrorism Act.

These patriots took part in the historic ANC6ZAPU alliance and fought in the Wankie operations against the combined forces of Smith and Vorster during 1967 and 1968. They were sentenced under 'Law and Order (Maintenance Act) of the illegal Smith regime.

The following names are known - see focus and those who have died.

Under the Rhodesian laws, a number of the ANC prisoners will be due for release in the 1980's. ANC prisoners in Khami share their conditions with fellow Zimbabweans and are mostly held in A hall either in cells formally used for white prisoners but now accommodated up to five African prisoners or in larger cells on the third floor housing 40-50 people - so tightly packed that at night impossible to turn over. They do hard labour - in early 70's this consisted of stone crushing at the bottom of 9 foot deep pits inside the perimeter fence from which the ladders were withdrawn to prevent escape. Many ANC prisoners in Khami have not even had the chance of the allowed one 15 visit a month as their families unable to get there. Below reprint letter from prisoner in Khami:

Remember our men in Khami. Call for their release and the release of all Zimbabwean political prisoners

Propoganda