

CHIEF GATSHA BUTHELEZI AND DR VAN ZYL SLABBERT HAVE TROTTED OUT THE IDEA OF A SO-CALLED CONVENTION ALLIANCE. THERE IS MORE THAT UNITES THESE PERSONALITIES THAN THIS IDEA.

TOGETHER THEY ARE OPPOSED TO ANY MEANINGFUL ACTION TO BRING INTO BEING A UNITED, DEMOCRATIC AND NON-RACIAL SOUTH AFRICA. ACCORDINGLY THEY REFUSE TO INITIATE OR PARTICIPATE IN ANY MASS ACTION. THEY ARE AGAINST THE INTERNATIONAL ISOLATION OF APARTHEID SOUTH AFRICA. THEY ARE VIRULENTLY OPPOSED TO ARMED STRUGGLE AND ARE HAPPY TO JUSTIFY THE VIOLENCE OF THE APARTHEID SYSTEM IN THE NAME OF LAW AND ORDER. CHIEF BUTHELEZI'S FOLLOWERS HAVE NOT HESITATED TO ATTACK AND KILL ACTIVISTS OF THE DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT. ON THEIR HEADS, AND THOSE OF THEIR MASTERS IN PRETORIA, LIES THE UNSPEAKABLE CRIME OF THE MURDER OF VICTORIA MXENGE.

BOTH BUTHELEZI AND SLABBERT ARE CONTENT TO SERVE IN INSTITUTIONS CREATED BY THE PRETORIA REGIME TO PERPETUATE THE CRIMINAL SYSTEM OF WHITE MINORITY RULE, RESPECTIVELY THE KWA-ZULU BANTUSTAN AND THE TRI-CAMERAL PARLIAMENT.

DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE APARTHEID REGIME HAS SET ITS FACE, BY WORD AND DEED, AGAINST ANY PEACEFUL CHANGE, BUTHELEZI AND SLABBERT CONTINUE TO ADVANCE THE EMPTY PERSPECTIVE OF DIALOGUE WITH A CABAL WHICH HAS DEPLOYED SECRET DEATH SQUADS AGAINST PATRIOTS WHO ARE ENGAGED IN PEACEFUL STRUGGLE.

THE PURPOSE OF ALL THIS MANOEUVRING IS PATENTLY CLEAR. IT IS TO STOP THE STRUGGLE AND CREATE THE POSSIBILITY FOR BOTH, BUTHELEZI AND SLABBERT, BACKED BY THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION, TO IMPOSE A REFORMIST 'SOLUTION' ON OUR PEOPLE WHICH WOULD LEAVE THE APARTHEID SYSTEM INTACT.

THE ANC WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE THAT THERE CAN BE NO DISCUSSION OF A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT WHILE THE LEADERS OF OUR PEOPLE ARE IN PRISON. FURTHERMORE, ANY NEGOTIATIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE ABOUT THE TRANSFER OF POWER TO THE DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY. THE ISSUE OF A UNITED, DEMOCRATIC AND NON-RACIAL SOUTH AFRICA IS NOT NEGOTIABLE.

IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE BOTHA REGIME HAS CLEARLY AND UNEQUIVOCALLY SAID IT IS AGAINST A SYSTEM OF ONE PERSON ONE VOTE IN A UNITED SOUTH AFRICA, IT IS IDLE TO HOLD OUT THE PERSPECTIVE OF A CONVENTION WITH THIS REGIME.

THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY FORWARD. WE MUST AND WILL CRUSH THE APARTHEID REGIME BETWEEN THE HAMMER OF ARMED ACTION AND THE ANVIL OF MASS STRUGGLE. THERE IS NO MIDDLE ROAD.