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NEWS & VIEWS

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Poetry

26/8/88.

"Our leadership collective should remain close to the people and be accountable to them. At the same time we must have to fight against all tendencies to develop contempt for the masses of the people and therefore to think that decisions must be taken on their behalf... We must build within our organisation on the basis of a common programme to an agreed programme of action."

*****Jan. 8th Speech. Press O.R. TAMBO*****

ISSUE No. 19/88 Year of United Action for People's Power!

Interview with NEC member and head of National Youth Section Comrade Jackie Selebi.

In our last issue of News & views issue number 18/88, we published part of our interview with Cde. Jackie Selebi, a member of the National Executive Committee. Below we publish the interview.

Question: Now perhaps, Cde. Jackie, if you could give us some summary of the situation in Angola... negotiations, the prospects of an independence in Namibia...

Answer: Maybe first one could speak about "The battle for Angola." One has no doubt that the racist were dragged to the negotiation table. They didn't go there from a position of strength. They actually were the most desperate to negotiate with the Angolans because of the military situation in Angola. First they moved 9,000 men into Angola with an idea of capturing Cuito Cuanavale. Cuito Cuanavale is a small town in the back of beyond of Angola. But for them that town was strategic in the sense that they would then place Unita, Savimbi in that town and have Cuito Cuanavale as the capital of this "republic" that they wanted. The Great Kimbundu Republic in the South. So they put in, their best men, the Buffaloes into Cuito Cuanavale. At that time there was a small garrison which the Angolans then withdrew and with that withdrew everybody. They got some reinforcements to defend Cuito Cuanavale because if the South

Africans took it then there would have been today a new republic in the South of Angola who's capital being Cuito Cuanavale which had an airstrip so that their planes could land not like Jamba which is just a bush. So the fight for Cuito Cuanavale is in fact the one has brought about the resolves of all those discussions. Hence the possibility of a Namibia which is force. Around November it was clear that the South Africans are taking Cuito Cuanavale in fact it was clear to the heads of states in Southern Africa that are now having a new republic. It was a matter of days before Savimbi could could raise the flag and declare independence. The Americans were involved and also the South Africans but around November Dos-Santos had to go to Fidel Castro and say to Castro-give us reinforcements, assist us and now and now get involved directly in the conflict. Cuba sent about 20,000-took the best of the airforce that they have, the airforce that they have always kept to defend Cuba from the North Americans. This was around December. The most important area of battle was over the air. The one who wins air superiority would have won the battle. South Africans were about 5km from Cuito Cuanavale. But the Cuban and Fapla forces which by the way have improved especially the air force contained the superiority of S. over the the air. Then the SA's began to have problems. They battled for 6 months for the battle of Cuito Cuanavale 200,000 shells were dropped on that town between January and the time they started to want to speak. Once the Cubans had superiority then they moved across some of their best brigades to the south. The ultimate is that the South Africans having lost the battle were trapped 3,000 men

Johannesburg

A swiss lung specialist has examined Cde Mandele and says he is responding well to treatment for tuberculosis, Cape Town's Tygerberg hospital announced.

Professor Heinrich Hertzog, President of the European Society of Pneumology, has seen Mandela. It was not disclosed when the examination took place or at whose request. "Nelson Mandela is responding well to our treatment. He is cheerful and is up and about," the hospital said, adding that Hertzog fully agreed with the diagnosis of the doctor in charge of the case, Attie de Kock.

The statement said Mandela was suffering from a tubercular ploural effussion on August 13th and a lung was drained. "The effussion has cleared up. The drain was removed on Monday and Mandela's lung fully expanded,"

Superintendent J.G. Strauss said. A newly formed Mandela crisis committee of prominent Anti apartheid activists demanded that Racist P.W. Botha allow an independent medical team to examine Cde Mandela.

Meanwhile, South Africa's weekend press debated and speculated over the Possible release of Cde Mandela, but Botha's regime has made no move.

WHITE SOUTH AFRICANS REFUSE MILITARY SERVICE

More than 140 white South Africans, including an army captain who renounced his rank, said they would refuse to report for compulsory military service because the military defends apartheid.

Simultaneous announcements were made in Cape Town, Durban, Grahamstown and Johannesburg. In a statement delivered in Cape Town, 48 men described themselves as "loyal South African" who cannot serve because the defence force "violently maintains and prapagates a fundamentally unjust and oppressive system." The announcement followed the July 25 sentencing of David Bruce to six years in jail for violating Defence Act provisions which require all white males to serve four years in South Africa's military forces.

Another 66 announced their refusal at Johannesburg's Witwatersrand University. They were joined by 19 men in Durban and 10 in Grahamstown.

Andre Zaaïman, 28, who attained the rank of captain during two years of national service and saw combat duty in Namibia and Angola, said he was renouncing his rank and refuse the remainder of his call-up duty.

"I'm definitely not going to risk my life, in war that is both unjust and futile, while politicians try to convince us that we are supposedly fighting for the protection of values", said Zaaïman, one of several Afrikaner conscientious objectors.

I reconfirm my refusal to participate in any way in the SADF, until the system of apartheid has been done away with completely and until the SADF acts in the interest of all South Africans."

Several doctors were among the Cape Town objectors, including a Rhodes scholar. University of Cape Town student Representative Council leader Cameron Dugmore, 24, a law student, also was among the group. All the objectors emphasized their solidarity with Bruce.

IN CAPE TOWN, a small bomb exploded yesterday in South Africa's oldest building, the 300-year old Cape TOWN Castle that is now used as an army head quarters.

In another incident on Sunday 21st August racist police shot dead three men, when they fired into a group of peaceful demonstrators. At Hammarsdale a Black residential area near Pietermaritzburg the police attacked a group of black people by firing at them.

Pakistan, the situation in Pakistan is still tense following the death of ~~General Zia~~ General Zia in an air crash.

U.S. investigators arrived at the site of the air crash. Pakistan officials are probing possible sabotage and have interrogated 80 detainees. Those held including airport security staff and cargo handlers at Bahawalpur, in eastern Pakistan, where Zia's c-130 Hercules aircraft took off before crashing in flames several minutes later. There is a possibility of a bomb having been concealed among 20 crates of mangoes put aboard a Bahawalpur.

In a separate development, two people were killed and at least six injured in clashes sparked by Zia's death.

Implications of UN Security Council Resolution 435 which Outlines Conditions for the Independence of Namibia.

It was on September 29th 1978, almost ten years ago that UN Security Council passed resolution 435 on the independence of Namibia. In July this year in New York the four parties, namely Angola, Cuba, South Africa and the United States agreed on the fourteen point set of principles.

The first of these was "Implementation of Resolution 435/78 of the security council of the UN. The Parties shall agree upon and recommend to the Secretary General of the UN the date for the commencement of the implementation of the Resolution 435/78. The date agreed upon has been fixed for November 1st 1988. The most important points envisaged by the resolution are the following:

- The establishment of the United Nations Transitional Assistance Group (UNTAG). It's function was to prepare for the early independence of Namibia through free and fair elections under the control and supervision of the United Nations. It's mandate would last for 12 months. UNTAG would operate through a special appointee of the UN Secretary General.
- UNTAG would consist of 7500 forces which would monitor the withdrawal of all armed forces. Some say that 5000 would consist of soldiers and 2,500 would be administrative personnel.
- UNTAG would not only monitor the ceasefire of the warring parties namely SADF and SWAPO but also that all armed groups are demobilised and restriction of those remaining in special military camps. This could be Grootfontein for the South African forces.
- One of the first tasks of UNTAG would be to see that all discriminatory laws and measures are repealed and that jails be emptied of all political prisoners. All Namibians whether combatants or civilians freedon fighters and other exiles would be free to return.
- UNTAG would now initiate, control and supervise free and fair elections which would elect a constituent assembly that would draw up the constitution.
- The implementation of that constitution would herald a free and independent Namibia. Other minor points of the resolution dealt with a creation of 300 strong police force and also the operation of 1000 professional election agents to arrange the election. The accord of the 14 points also emphasised the political principle behind resolution 435, namely:
 - Reaffirmation of the right of the peoples of the South Western region of Africa to self determination, independence and equality of rights.

National scholarship committee

Through the good offices of "News and Views", the National Scholarship committee appeals to those students who are Already confirmed to study abroad to make thorough arrangements for departure. They should verify themselves the validity of their travel documents, ensure that they receive in time cash, proper clothes and other basic necessities. Comrades leaving for studies should see to it that transport from Mazimbu to Dar-es-Salaam is requested for them 24 hrs in advance. Experience shows that even those comrades who are not yet confirmed to take up scholarship offers should also prepare for possible departure at very short notice.

The NSC undertakes to keep our students and the Mazimbu Community informed on a regular basis on developments. We are equally willing to answer sny questions to do with available offers or conduct consultations about same.

NSC Secretariat.

POLITICAL VIDEOS

Venue: Multi Purpose Library Hall
 Time : 7:00 pm
 Date : 29 August 1988
 Title: Nelson Mandela ~~concert~~ concert at Wembley Stadium, London.

Comrades are notified that the videox film on Mandela will start earlier than the usual time, instead af 7:30 pm. the video will start at 7:00 pm.

A Request From the Housing Office

Parents who's children are still occupying rooms are requested by the housing x office to take their children to the dormitory or to move them to their rooms alternatively they could move them to the sitting room. Parents are requested to put the rooms at the disposal of the housing office before the 30th August 1988. FURTHERMORE, THE HOUSING OFFICE expressed sincere and profound gratitude to the parents who gave a forthwith respond to our request. Finally those Cde's who haven't collected their kichen utensils are reminded to collect them on the 29th August 1988.

Venue of distribution: The central Administration Block.

The Cubans made air cover and left only one route on a very straight flat land like the Orange Free State which goes to Caprivi and South Africa's 3,000 men in dugouts in Cuito Cuanavale, ran out of supplies, ran out of food, ran out of water. There is what brought South Africa to the discussions. There is ~~what brought~~ no way these people (3,000 soldiers) can ~~come~~ come out. Cuba and Fapla are superior over the air and these people are surrounded, in fact they have only one route, if they are to go out, they must move on a plane where the FAPLA and Cuban forces would obliterate 3,000 South African soldiers. So Magnus Malan had to seek for negotiations not so much to give Namibia independence but for ceasefire so that his men can come out of the dugouts to look for food.

The Angolans were using this as a trophy to be able to advance whatever political positions, that they want South Africans out of their country they want Namibia to be free. So the pawn is the 3,000 men. They had ~~x~~ their 1st meeting discussing peace and how they could withdraw. Second meeting was in Brazzaville. Ultimately they have come out with the principles that OK South Africans will withdraw ~~xx~~ into Namibia and by June 1st, leave Namibia, Swapo comes into power and the Cubans withdraws to Cuba and that's the setting. South Africa was dragged to the negotiations because of the 3,000 men that it had in Cuito Cuanavale. That is why in Vienna they demanded a ceasefire in one week. They got the ceasefire, so the men started pulling out.

They will be out of Angola very soon. It was a tactical position on the Cubans and Angolans that while the men were trapped the Cuban, Fapla and Swapo forces went up till the dam-Rokana Dam in order to see the South African soldiers completely out of Angola.

TO BE CONTINUED IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

ZPC Political Discussion

The Mazimbu community is reminded that political discussions which were suspended due to the pioneer camp will be resumed on the 2nd September 1988.

The topic for discussion on the 2nd September will be "Constitutional Guidelines for a Democratic South Africa." The topic will be lead by comrade JP Pampallis.

Venue : Lab Theatre
Time : 7:00

All comrades are invited !

Editorial

To negotiate is to talk / discuss with another person or group/s in order to settle a question or a disagreement. At the moment we don't have persons but countries sitting, trying to settle the fate of a nation-Namibia. Did Botha as, Cde Jackie put it, "Wake-up on the right side of his bed and decide to negotiate?" The answer is a big emphatic NO. Then ~~decided to~~ what led or leads people like the racist South Africans to a table? Do they go there voluntarily or is it only when they are in a hot situation (militarily) that they think of a table? In Zimbabwe it was only when Smith was on the brink of defeat that Lancaster House talks emerged. The Patriotic Forces of Zimbabwe-ZIPRA and ZANLA forces dragged Smith to the table. In 1978 the security council of the UN resolved inter-alia that South Africa hands Namibia over to the Namibian people. It is only now in 1988 that racist South Africa have decided that it is time to do so. What led them to this discussion? The answer is Cuito Cuanavale. They were thoroughly thrashed militarily, whilst they were winning one could make out the words "lets negotiate!" 3,000 of their men were, as we now know, trapped in dugouts with no food and no water to drink. They can boast of "military strength" "Buffallo" Battalion 32, but when there was neither water no food and when there was no possible way or means of freeing 3,000 of their soldiers they thought about a ceasefire which most significantly was signed in one week. It took them 365 days or 1 year to decide but Cuito Cuanavale made/ forced them to sign in 7 days in Geneva. The writing is on the wall-humiliation. They humiliated. Now, this is the language that the racist Botha understands promptly. The language of the battle field and the Cuito Cuanavale is a (high sounding) good example. They definitely are not sitting now and discussing from a position of strength. When those 3,000 soldiers go back to their mother and sisters- to their families, they will have a lot to say about the might of the Cuban and Fapla forces. They now understand their might and skill over the air more than anybody ~~xx~~ else. This is why in a statement of our National Executive Committee, on the question of negotiations October 9th, 1987, we quote "We are convinced that the Botha regime has neither the desire nor the intention to engage in any meaningful negotiations..."

The regime has raised the issue of negotiations... to defuse the struggle inside our country by holding out false hopes of a just political settlement which the Pretoria regime has every intention to block?

We can safely conclude then that to negotiate with the racist Botha we need to ~~be~~ be in a position of strength. To be in a position of strength we need to arm our strength politically and even more militarily. We need to rededicate ourselves. Wherever we are, what-ever mission we are given and whoever we are.

The Cocconut Tree

Through sunshine

rain

and

storm

Your posture stays erect
to me

you resemble

Rolihlahla Nelson Mandela

Never yielding to seduction

Never succumbing

to the chilly winds

of

Robben Island

Polsmoor(prison)

Your chlorophyll withstands

All season

Mandela's conviction are unaffected

By the vicissitudes

of

the

struggle

How different are you

From my leader ?

Robert Mthembu

(alias Arthur Kasparov)

SPORTS

Matches For Last Weekend

In celebration of our first Anc National Pioneer Camp. We decided to form two teams in order to honour this great event. The teams were as follows Masupatsela was in a Black and Gold jersey and 'Cuito Cuanavale Might Heroes' was in maroon and white. The first leg was scheduled for Saturday 20th August. But due to the invitation of Somafo by our Tanzanian friends; the Lutheran School. The match was postponed to Sunday.

So on Sunday the match ended in a draw score being(5-5) five all. ON Monday the match continued and Masupatsela scored 3 more goals; while on the other side Cuito Cuanavale mighty heroes scored only 1 more goal, which brings us to a final score of in favour of Masupatsela.

Mazimbu Dakawa Football Ass,
P.O. Box 680,
Mazimbu,
Morogoro,

24th August 1988

The Editor

News and Views

Central Administration

Mazimbu

We would like to inform the community through your News and Views that we have received video cassettes of the European Cup finals from our Chief Administrator Cde! TK Naseko.

We have, therefore, decided to show these video cassettes after the Pioneer's Camp which is today Friday and Sunday.

Venue : Tabora and Somafo respectively

Time : ~~Sunday~~ 19: 00

: USSR v/s Holland

: Italy v/s Denmark

Long live our common struggle for peace, justice, democracy and national liberation!

organizer: Hoard Hundleon

BOXING

On Tuesday, 23rd August the Mazimbu and Dakawa communities witnessed a rare but very entertaining event-boxing. The Mazimbu Boxing Club invited our local Tanzanian Boxers. We saw good boxing and in the same evening witnessed some ~~box~~ bouts which left much to be desired. Most of our comrades were not in good shape. However, one cannot but highlight the 3rd bout ~~where~~ where we saw Mongezi going it all out to a draw with a professional Tanzanian boxer Devis. Peter Zondi saved his skin by lifting his arms(surrendering)in the 5th bout where he was fighting an obviously experienced Tanzanian boxer-Juma Tembo. This was the only TKO decision of the evening. We cannot forget the curtain raisers(pioneers).