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THE HEROIC GUERRILLA-SOLOMON NAHLANGI

RADIO FREEDOM

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VOLUME 1: Today, the eighth of October, progressive mankind thr world over and those engaged in the armed liberation struggle in particular, observe the great day: the day of the Heroic Guerrilla. It was on this day in 1967 that comrade Ernesto Che Guevarra, one of the greatest fighters for freedom and social progress in, Latin America, fell in battle fighting against the forces of the oppressor regime in Bolivia: Che Guevarra, who at the age of two, suffered his first attack of asthma that couldnt be cured and was to be part of his whole life, fought in the mountains and jungles on the side of the oppressed people of the Latin American continent and of the poor and disfranchised of this earth: Born in Argentina in 1928, comrade Che did not only fight to chase the dictator Batista and let the power be in the hands of the oppressed Cuban people, but because of his internationalist conviction, proceeded to Bolivia where his sacred heroic guerrilla blood was shed for the interests of the oppressed masses of that country: // Comrade Che Guevarra was not only a dynamic fighter for freedom on the battle-field, but he was also a deep thinker, a progressive revolutionary thinker: We know that as we the oppressed people of South Africa, like our brothers and sisters in Zimbabwe, Namibia, in Spanish Sahara, in the middle East and Latin America are engaged in the struggle for freedom, justice and national independence arms in hand, our enemies, which are the racist regimes, the neo-colonialist puppets and their western imperialist supporters try by all means to distort the true meaning of freedom fighters: They daily propagate lies, portraying guerrillas - the freedom fighters as terrorists, murderers who are just trigger-happy, fighting for no just cause at all: But in comrade Che's words, a guerrilla - a freedom

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But in comrade Che's words, a guerrilla, a freedom fighter is correctly defined, put in its proper perspective- he says:

✓ **VOICE 2:** "A guerrilla fighter is a social reformer who takes up arms responding to the angry protests of his people against their oppressor. he fights in order to change the social system that keeps all his unarmed brothers in ignominy and misery."

—SONG SILILO SARUNA—

VOICE 1: From these words of the heroic guerrilla comrade Che Guevara, we the oppressed but struggling people of South Africa, on this historical day remember our heroic militants like comrade Solomon Mahlangu whom the racist authorities have illegally sentenced to death. We are once more on this day reminded of the death sentence of comrade Solomon Mahlangu, a militant of Ukhonto Wesizwe, the military wing of the African National Congress who, like hundreds of patriots of our country, responded to the angry protests of his unarmed brothers and sisters. Countrymen, how many people can tolerate to see the racist oppressors detaining our people in hundreds and murdering others in detention with impunity? How many patriots can fold their arms and be onlookers while racist exploiters humiliate their parents who toil day and night for peanuts, only to be insulted, harassed and treated like slaves in the land of their birth? The racists, who have conquered our country by force of ~~an~~ arms and are today ruling it through the barrel of the gun have since they imposed their illegal rule in our country committed countless atrocities against our people:

VOICE 2: They massacred more than 163 of our people and wounded hundreds of others at Beelhook in 1921:

VOICE 3: They murdered more than sixty nine of our people at Sharpville in 1960:

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VOICE 1: When workers asked for higher wages and better working conditions at the Carltonville gold mine in 1973, they were answered by with bullets, tear gas canisters and truncheons:

VOICE 2: And to crown their atrocities, the fascist massacred hundreds of innocent youths and students in Soweto, Gugulethu, Alexander, Nyanga and at many other places of our country during the historic uprising of June 16 1976:

VOICE 3: Are there any true patriots of our country who can tolerate to see their brothers and sisters arrested daily for passes and ~~imprisoned~~ tortured to death in the chambers of John Vorster Square, Port Elizabeth Police Station, and other:

VOICE 4: Who can ignore the fascist harassment of our people in their residential places like Richmond farm in Natal, ~~and~~ Cross roads in western Cape and areas between Parkside and Buffalo Flats in East London, where the gestapo ~~police~~ of the Pretoria regime, armed to the teeth, attacks our people in the middle of the night, burning the little shacks which our people have built to provide themselves with the little shelter they could afford in the face of no housing provided for them by the regime?

VOICE 5: Yes, today, comrade Solomon Mahlangu is in the fascist cell, in the death list, to be murdered in cold blood by the racist regime's hang man because he refused to succumb to the fascist tyranny of the Pretoria regime in our country: And just as the heroic guerrilla, comrade Ghe said, Solomon Mahlangu responded to the cries of his unarmed brothers and sisters by joining Umkhonto Wesizwe which the African National Congress, our genuine liberation movement created with the purpose of meeting reactionary violence of the enemy by revolutionary violence: Like all the oppressed young people in our country, comrade Mahlangu grew up under very difficult conditions: Comrade Solomon Mahlangu's mother who lived with her son at Mamelodi township.

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like many of our oppressed women in this country, was deprived the right to bring up and care for her children properly, the right to lead a normal life, and had to struggle doing washing for rich white families in order to feed her children, to buy them clothes, to pay for the ever rocketing rent increases, water, and to pay for high bus fares to and from white residential areas. She had to accept the few cents paid to her by her white employers in order to buy her children books, uniforms and pay school-fees for the degrading Bantu Education. Like all the oppressed people in our country comrade Mahlangu and his family, lived in a match-box house in Mamelodi, which the racists like Vorster, Botha and millionaires like Oppenheimer and other big business owners of both South Africa and other western imperialist countries can not even wish to make it a garage for their expensive huge cars. Comrade Solomon Mahlangu like many of our death defying youths could not simply ignore this and he had to take a firm decision as comrade described, to change this evil society and to replace it with a more just one, based on the revolutionary document of the people of South Africa, The Freedom Charter, which clearly states that " South Africa belongs to all who live in it black and white, and that no government can justly claim authority unless it is based on the will of all the people "

-The society where all of us will live in happiness and harmony-
-where all of us will have the right to have a say in the making of laws that govern us. A society where all the people, black and white, will have the right to share the wealth of our country •
-guaranteed security and comfort have the right to own their land not only in the bantustans which are nothing but a peanut crumb of barren unproductive land. Let us recall the words of our leader, the commander in chief of Umkhonto Wesizwe comrade Nelson Mandela who at the famous Rivonia Trial of 1963 -64 where, together with other great leaders of our people like Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki,

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Raymond Mhlaba and Dennis Goldberg were charged with supposedly to have conspired to overthrow the racist regime by revolution & which gave us an ideal, ~~xx~~ guiding principle ~~xxxxxx~~ which all the members of the African National Congress, all cadres of Umkhonto Wesizwe and indeed all progressive South Africans must uphold at all times - comrade Mandela puts it thus:

(2) " -- the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities: It is the ideal which I have to live for and to achieve: But if need be it is an ideal for which I am Prepared to die:

(3) It was indeed in this revolutionary spirit that our heroic guerrilla, comrade Solomon Mahlangu with dedication, conviction and determination that together with his other comrades one of whom was comrade Mondy Motloong who could not even appear before the illegal court because of the damage to his brain caused by brutal torture at the hands of the fascist police thugs, responded to the call of the African National Congress, the vanguard movement of the people of South Africa to take up arms against the racist Pretoria regime: In this regard our president comrade Oliver Tambo has this to say:

(2) " 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 Umkhonto Wesizwe, our people's army, the military wing of the ANC and to confront the enemy with revolutionary ~~arm~~ arms now: "

SIYOBASHIY A THINA

On this day, the day of the heroic guerrilla, we should recall comrade Solomon Mahlangu who with resolve and determination was convinced that causes are not defeated when men fall and thus, young as he is, did not weep when the racist judge, pronounced the death sentence on him, instead, this brave fighter of the oppressed shouted the people's victory slogan with a clenched fist ~~xxxxxx~~