

Draft eteaft statement

Last Sunday, some political collumnists of the South African weekend newspaper, the "Sunday Times" are reported to have claimed that the African National Congress, together with Nelson Mandela, one of its leaders now imprisoned for life by the Vorster regime, "had given its support to the South African government efforts fend to other African states to reach a peaceful settlement in Southern Africa."

This -aajga'sgets allegation was contained in the Rand Daily Mail report which was carried by the Zambia# Daily

Mail on the 25th of February, this year.

news peport,

According to that/Gatsha Buthelezi, the tribal leader of the Kwazulu Bantustan had written an article in the Johannesburg!!

daiiy racist daily in which he attacked the critics of the Vorster regime's policy of dialogue with independent African nations.

Quoting the tribal leader's article, the Rand Daily Mail said that his attacks on the regime's critics had come 24 hours after the political colihumnists of the Sunday Times had made these malicious allegations against the African National Congress and its leadership#c=oncerning-its

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Pretoria. regime'to;=^&^k-ai-&^^ arrive at "detente" and "rapproabliment"
wit h 'fr e e-Af r i c a.'

In this connection, the African National Congress, the liberation movement of the millions of oppressed black masses of South Africa wis
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to make it abundantly clear that these sordid stories emanating from the South African Press commentators are nothing but fabrications of the enemies of the AÂ£Â»e- oppressed masses of South Africa, Africa and t
he
whole of progressive mankind.

It is not surprising that this mouth-piece of the South African financial and industrial magnates should commission oÂ£ its political writers to circulate such stories as it-they batten
Â£a?eÂ® the Vorster regime's criminal gpartheid policies,^^' turned South African into a paradise for the white oppressor minority and a living hell for millions of Africans, Colcbureds, Asians and all democratic forces in South Africa.'^fc^y

At a time when the liberation struggle has reached a crucial stage in South Africa, the Vorster regimes and its supporters in South Africa a&
w&ii and the rest of the imperialist world are resorting to all manner

of deceitful manoeuvres and gimmicks to cause confusion among the ^
fighting masses of South Africa. They will stoop at no lies and sender

in their futile campaign to denigrate the name of the liberation movement of the down-trodden masses of South Africa. - wSI^are forever

rising in great numbers to smash the Qppressive-whl-W^giae.

In this connection, the A.N.C. wishes to assure the fighting masses of South Africa, Africa, the whole of progressive mankind and democratic forces throughout the world that it is determined to wage the struggle against the Vorster regime until it has been overthrown and a democratic, non-racial state set up in South Africa.

Along with its historic task of liberating the oppressed and dispossessed masses of South Africa from barbarous white minority oppression, the A.N.C. is also waging as a continental and international campaign for the total isolation of the Vorster regime.

This it has, and will always do. Our liberation movement will under no circumstances agree to any dialogue between independent African nations and the Vorster regime. In the same manner as it opposed the attempts of the racist regime in 1976, with the help of its imperialist ally,

France, to pressure some West African states to enter into dialogue with it, the African National Congress remains opposed to the conspiracy of the U.S. administration to persuade African countries to enter into a policy of detente with the Vorster regime whilst it continues to trample the dignity of our nation under its fascist jackboot.

In so far as the A.N.C. is concerned, its policy on so-called detente in Southern Africa between Vorster regime and Africa remains as stated by its Acting President, O.E. Tambo, during his meeting with the Secretary-

General of the OAU, Mr. Eteki Mbouma.

Last duly.

In that statement, the Acting President of our national liberation movement defined this policy as follows: For many years, Your

Excellency, the South African fascists, aided by their imperialist allies, have tried their best to destroy the African National Congress and the South African liberation movement as a whole, as well as the determination of our people to be free.

Thanks to the unwavering conviction of our organisation in the inevitability

of victory and the leadership it has given and is giving to the struggling people of our country, thanks to the heroism of our people and the

support we have received from Africa and the world, the reactionary

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attempts of the enemy have proved to be in vain.

Reaffirming the determination of the ANC to wage an unremitting
struggle against the white-minority government, O. R. Tambo further
declared: "Our people and their organisation, the African National

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Congress, moved by their own suffering and by their obligation to the

peoples of Afrida and the world, who are threatened by the aggressive regime of apartheid, are equal to the task facing them; that of the destruction of what will possibly be the last remaining bastion of colonial and racist domination in our continent *

armed struggle for which our liberation is preparing

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organisation "

Africa, the leader of our iibeÂ£,a#i&H-meÂ¥Â©HeB& pointed out: "The A .N.C.

is, however, aware that without armed struggle, it is impossible for us to defeat the apatthaid regime and restore power to the people.

^The African National Congress is therefore engaged continuously in the process of building up the people's army, Umkhonoto we Sizwe, in recruiting, training, and arming of its cadres.

In our situation, which is characterised by the mass revolutionary enthusiasm of all our people, by the vicious reaction of the enemy to the popular mass struggle, and by the emergence of extremely favourable moral and material conditions as a result of the victories of our sister movements in the Portuguese colonies, the question of engaging the racist forces inside South Africa itself in armed

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fea combat has become very urgent matter mdded.

Our organisation and all its cadres are not shirking, nor will they in future Æk shirk, this task, without whose fulfillment there can be no liberation.

In his appeal to the OAU to continue rendering moral and material support to the liberation movement of the people of South Africa,

O.E. Tambo state: "It is vital that now we should intensify pressure for the total isolation apartheid South Africa, paying particular attention to the imperialist countries, such as the United States, Britain, France, West Germany, Japan and Israel."

The message concludes: The willingness of our people to fight for their liberation, their readiness to sacrifice their lives for victory, are not

in doubt. The peoples of African have already done much to assist us to gain that victory."

This then still remains the position of the African National Congress on the armed struggle in South Africa. It is still so as regards the Vorster regime's manoeuvres at dialogue with independent Africa.¹ It will continue to be so for as long as the apartheid exist on our motherland, South Africa.

It is a well-known fact that Mandela, whom the political columnists of the Sunday Times attempted to discredit before his own people, is one of the staunchest representatives of the down-trodden, degraded masses of

Africans in South Africa
determination to see South Africa freed
racial discrimination being perpetrated

cruelty by the Vorster regime, is proof of the

stagnation and
scourge of apartheid and
on our nation with calculated
many spirits of steel

that we today continue sustain our nation in this difficult struggle
for freedom, independence, democracy and peace in South Africa.

Knowing that Nelson Mandela has been condemned to life imprisonment
by

the Vorster regime, not in a position to repudiate these

malicious fabrications against him and his movement, the political
columnists of the Sunday Times have cowardly chosen this movement
to discredit him and his organisation.

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At the end of the Rivonia trial when he and other leaders of the
liberation movement in South Africa were sentenced to life imprisonment
for their role in the struggle of their people for liberation from fascist
tyranny, Nelson Mandela had declared: During my lifetime I have dedicated

myself to this struggle of the African people. "I have fought against white
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the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live to-
gether in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I
hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which
I am prepared to die.

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The situation of the African people and other oppressed black sections
in South Africa was extremely bleak under the present regime of
genocide

It was clearly set out by Chief Luthuli, the late President of
the African National Congress, way back in the fifties when he
posed the question: In so far as gaining citizenship rights and opportu-
nities for the unfettered development of the African people, who will deny

that thirty years of my life have been spent knocking in vain, patiently, moderately and modestly at a closed and barred door?"

He went on: "What have been the fruits of my many years of moderation? Has

there been any reciprocal tolerance or moderation from the Government, be

it Nationalist or United Party? No! On the contrary, the past thirty years have seen the greatest number of laws restricting our rights and progress until today we have reached a stage where we have almost no

rights at all; no adequate land for our occupation, our only asset, cattle, dwindling, no security of homes, no decent and remunerative employment, more restriction to freedom of movement through passes, curfew regulations, influx control measures; in short we have witnessed in these years an intensification of our subjection to ensure and protect White supremacy."

Today, nearly ten years since the murder of Chief Luthuli by the Yorster regime, South Africa has completely become a vast prison for the masses of our people. They are daily harrassed, detained and murdered by the fascist regime.

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Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Bram Fischer and other leaders of the liberation movement still continue to languish in the regime's prisons!

As we are now writing large numbers of students opposed to the regime's apartheid policies and fighting for their liberation of their motherland from the fascist yoke are being failed, tried and imprisoned. Many of them are now in detention awaiting endless trials and long sessions of interrogation by the fascist police.

In the light of the &Â© more than 60 years of struggle in which the A.N.C.

has unflinchingly led our nation in its struggle for freedom, the claim of the columnists of the Sacist Sunday Times can only be described as a

proposterous Â£ab\$Â©ia fabrication by those who stand to stand to benefit from continued apartheid oppression in South Africa.and will continue to campaign for the total isolation of the Vorster regime througuout the world.

As for Bule Gatsha Buthelezi, the tribal leader of Kwazulur^an^ustaii,

(we need not waste time Oiiijds=jÂ\$meirÂ£s..regarding those fighting against the

(Yorster regime's policy of dialogue with the free African nations.

It is well-known fact that Buthelezi like other leaders of these death entres into which the Yorster regime is now heading our people, are its paid servants. \$&Â»Â£Â©Â¥Â©Â£Â» They can only say what the Vorster regime fcklows them to say. It is for this reason that the regime allows them to make sits into independent Africa, Their visits are not - as the Vorster gime would like to pretend - visits by African leaders, but tribal leaders in its service.

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rica

;Ln the fifties and sixties are a tga tangible proof that our peolle are
.against them. Gatsha Buthelezi, Matanzama and others continue to lord j.
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over our people thanks to the regim's guns and policy.

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Note

As for G-athha Buthelezi, who is not a national leader, but a tribal leader of Kwazulu Bantustan, we need not waste time on his remarks regarding those fighting against the Vorster regime. For, he can only say or do something with the blessing of the white minority fascist regime.

It is for this reason that they allow them to make visits into Africa as so-called African leaders.