

KLASSEKAMPEN (Marxist-Leninist), Saturday 15.06.91.

- Don't trust de Klerk

- Can we, the South African oppressed, have trust in de Klerk's government?

Our experiences with de Klerk so far say no.

These words are coming from Derek Masoek and Dan Sekonya who are both in the leadership of the ANC Youth League. After giving a number of examples of what de Klerk's government stands for, their conclusion is that in reality South Africa is back in the time before President de Klerk gave his famous speech in February 1990, where he unbanned the ANC and other liberation-movements, promised to release Nelson Mandela and proclaimed that he wanted a negotiated settlement to dismantle apartheid.

- We are surprised that de Klerk is being honoured all over the world, whilst it is our people that have suffered and are still suffering and being killed in the struggle for these changes, says Dan Sekonya.

- What are our experiences with de Klerk, a man that has been called "a man of integrity" and "an honest man"? asks Derek Masoek and continues:

- We know of at least 600 political prisoners that are still in jail. De Klerk's regime is denying that there are any political prisoners left in jail. But family members have given names of prisoners and described the circumstances under which their children, brothers or sisters were arrested. This has recently caused the release of yet another 100 prisoners.

No confidence

But how can we have confidence in de Klerk's government when it behaves like this? Let us give another example. They are banning peaceful demonstrations organised by the ANC. Several times peaceful marches have been stopped by violence. In Klerksdorp on the 30th April 6 people were killed. They blame it on vigilantes, but we know what we know.

- At the same time armed marchers of Inkatha is not only allowed, but escorted by the police. In spite of the fact that we know that Inkatha's armed rallies will result in people being killed.

These are our experiences with the de Klerk government. A government that says it is "committed to changes". The truth is that if the international boycott is lifted, the regime will commit more crimes like these, says Masoek.

- How can you explain that de Klerk is winning international support whilst the ANC is losing?

- Let me first say that the international support for the ANC was won by hard work. All along we have known the positions of countries like UK, Germany and France. What we see now is that the limited victories we have won - like forcing the Pretoria-regime to negotiate with those they used to call "terrorists" - are not credited the ANC. On the contrary, de Klerk is using our victories to re-introduce the Pretoria-regime on the international arena. For the first time a white minority-leader, cause that is what de Klerk still is, can go to other countries where he never dreamt of going, says Masoek.

BOYCOTT

- When should the international boycott be lifted?

- Should I answer on behalf of the ANC or the Youth League? There is a certain difference, and we will fight for our view to be adopted at the conference in July. But at the consultative conference in December last year there was also a clear decision on maintaining the sanctions, which I fully support.

- President de Klerk even have the arrogant impudence of inviting people for a peace-conference to discuss the township Violence, where he is supposed to be a kind of neutral mediator. Even though the security forces are heavily involved in the on-going violence, de Klerk thinks it is OK for him to be a mediator "between the parties".

We are dealing here with a government. And that is why I am saying that we are back in 1989 - at the time before the ANC was unbanned. We totally reject that the changes in South Africa are irreversible. Only when we have a democratic elected government can we lift sanctions, says Derek Masoek.

USING INKATHA

- What is the aim of the Pretoria-regime?

- If the troops are to withdraw from the townships, as stated in the UN-resolution, the Pretoria-regime will need another force to play that role. This is where Inkatha comes in. To keep up a state of fear in the townships. To see to that people will still be afraid of saying they are supporting the ANC. It is true what the media is telling; there are less people wearing ANC T-shirts now. People are afraid. We are back in 1989, says Masoek.

- The strategy of the regime is to keep the economic power at any cost. Even when they realize that they have to hand over some political power, they have in no way lost or given up. You can see that on how they are trying to win the hearts and minds of people in our ranks. They are doing this both because they want to divide us and give them more political space. And above all - secure their economic power, says Dan Sekonya.

- Some will say that the increasing violence in the townships means that the Pretoria-regime is repeating what they did with the RENAMO-bandits in Mozambique. And the danger is that they are creating a monster of violence which they cannot control. Is that correct?

- When they create such a bandit-movement, it is naive to think they do not see how far it goes. When they create a tribal vigilantesl army the South African army-strategists know very well the consequences. They know very well that a man who is one day hacking a pregnant woman cannot behave civilized and human the following day.

There are ways of controlling these movements. The South African army is very sophisticated. It is absurd to hear them say that they cannot control what they have created and have controlled for so many years, says Derek Masoek.

FULL CONTROL

- If the Violence continues the social consequences will be serious. But the authorities can control this violence and it is planned. The fact is that when de Klerk goes abroad, the violence decreases. And when important guests are visiting from abroad, the Violence will also decrease. This shows that the government can stop the violence if they want to, says Dan Sekonya.

This view is supported by Nico Basson, a former major in the South African Security Forces. In an interview on Thursday with the American TV-station NBC, Basson said that the South African government is financing and training Inkatha, s zulu-warriors, so that they can attack ANC-supporters

- They are using the violence as a switch that can be turned on and off.

President de Klerk is part of a larger strategy in South Africa, where the whites should be secured the control of the country also in the future, said Basson.