

Statement for June 26, 1971

Issued by the African National Congress of South Africa.

June 26 is the National Day of Struggle of the oppressed and struggling Black masses of South Africa. On this day the African National Congress of South Africa calls on the oppressed peoples of our country to rededicate themselves to the noble task of liberating the motherland from the white fascist tyranny.

As the people refused to submit when their organisation, the ANC was banned by Verwoerd in 1960, choosing instead that their organisation must work underground, in the harsh conditions of illegality, so today we say to the peoples of our country, refuse to submit until liberation is won, until white supremacy has been buried for ever, until power has securely passed into the hands of the Black majority.

As we have marked June 26 since 1950, regardless of the attempts of the Boer army, police and judges to stop us, so shall we, this year, mark June 26 again.

Taking stock of the current situation in our country, what must we note? To our people we must say the Black giant is re-awakening. By locking our people and our leaders behind prison bars, by torturing us, by assassinating and murdering the best sons and daughters of our people, by banishing and sending others into exile, the white fascists, the assassins who killed 18 African patriots in 1950, the murders of the ordinary people of Sharpeville, the hangmen of Vuyisile Mini and others, had thought that they had suppressed and destroyed our will to fight for ever. In their most secret meetings and even in their sleep, they planned, prayed for and organised for our perpetual slavery. But they have failed.

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is not broken. There we took up simple arms, stones, sticks and spears to resist removal from land that belonged to us and our forefathers, and to protect the cattle which the whites wanted to take from us.

Our youth in the schools and colleges has risen up as never before. Without fear of jails and the police they have stood up to defend their rights, as has happened within the last few months in such schools as Healdtown in the Ciskei, St Johns, Matanzima and other schools in the Transkei.

We refused to celebrate their Boer Republic, only a few days ago. Ehey offered us beer and food, but we said no ! We are a proud and stubborn people and we shall not celebrate our own slavery. Though the enemy even intensified his pass arrests in order to terrify us into celebrating, we still said no!

Relying on our own strength, let us intensify the struggle in resistance to the Vorster tyranny. The xtxMggis example of Ceza, St Johns and elsewhere must be taken up everywhere.

The enemy wants to decieve us with his Bantustans.By our actions in struggle against the pass laws, for higher wages, for the abolition of influx control, for land, for the abolition of the ressettlement areas, for free education, and for the overthrow of apartheid and white domination,^that we want our country^back, not the Transkei, Mot Zululand, not Tswanaland, but the whole country. Let us show the enemy that we are determined to sieze power.

South Africa belongs to us? all its mineral wealth, its land, its fasaxi factories are ik&xk&xi&ags our heritage.

The peoples of Africa and the world are with us. They are not taken in by the Bantustan fraud. They are not deceived by the dialogue trick. Banda may enter into relations with Vorster, but the people of Malawi, workers together with us in the South African mines and farms, know what apartheid means. They want no truck with dialogue. They say the Black people of South Africa must be free.

The whole world is marking 1971 as the Year of Struggle for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, as the year of support for our people. All the African peoples say no to dialogue and yes to freedom in South Africa. Only yesterday, the OAU said no fraternisation with Vorster, victory to the Black masses of South Africa.

We are at war with white South Africa, and all its supporters.

Prepare for a bitter and protracted struggle.

You have the right and duty to use every weapon.

No force from outside will liberate the Black people. Rely on your own strength.

Liquidate all traitors, informers and agents.

Resist removals to concentration camps or so-called

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resettlement areas.

Every inch of South African soil belongs to the Black people. Treat what the white man says with suspicion and contempt.

Your organisation, the African National Congress says:

Amandla! Maatla!

All power to the people!

T.T.Nkobi

Chief Representative