

Write to Box 61682 Marshalltown 2107

Don't let 'comrades' take power here

LETTERS TO
THE EDITOR

The majority of South Africans agree that all laws based on discrimination regarding colour, race, nationality, religion, sex, etc must be eliminated, ie what is known as "dismantling of apartheid".

Few South Africans, however, understand what system is being proposed by leftist radicals under the guise of dismantling of apartheid.

I have lived under socialism and communism in Europe, and today I see in South Africa that very same pattern being used in the townships unrest, consumer boycotts, etc.

The intimidators and boycott enforcers even call themselves "comrades" and use many other words from the communist vocabulary.

Of course, everything is done "in the

name of the people" without ever taking the trouble to find out democratically what the people really want.

The comrades' favourite propaganda is that people shall govern and that people shall own everything.

In reality, it is impossible for people to govern or to own anything — it is always an individual or a group of individuals that govern, ie the communist party comrades.

At the present moment the comrades are not in power, but they are already making many decisions for us such as

where one may shop, drink or dance, how many guests to have at one's wedding party or even whether to have a party or a celebration.

Imagine then, what the comrades will do when they get into power.

The freedom of an ordinary citizen will be so limited that, in comparison, the present system in South Africa will be regarded as "the good old days".

If the comrades tell you that the present intimidations and killings are temporary measures during a revolutionary struggle do not be so naive as to believe them.

These are their methods of operation during the revolution, and even more so after the revolution.

Once comrades are in power there is no way to chuck them out. Not one country in the world which has been taken over by communists has managed to get rid of them.

Likewise, South Africa will have only one chance to say "no" to the comrades.

Do we ordinary citizens of South Africa want to live under such a system? We must change the present system, yes, but let us change it for a better one.

One who has seen the "future"
Orange Grove

'Disinvest — but exclude me'

It is time the persistent calls for disinvestment by a large section of the black population are put into their proper perspective. I work for a multi-national company employing a substantial number of educated blacks. Their wide-eyed enthusiasm for disinvestment knows no bounds, as long as it does not affect them personally.

While calling for the impoverishment of the country as a means to topple the Government, they vie for promotions and the benefits that go with them — company cars, housing bonds — indeed all the trappings of capitalism that they so viciously denounce while travelling to work in their subsidised luxury cars.

When this hypocrisy is pointed out to them and that they themselves are quite free to disinvest their services should they so choose, they fall back on the lame excuse that such action would "be a drop in the ocean" and would thus serve no purpose. When applied too closely, the principle, it would appear, flies out of the window faster than it takes to spell "divestiture".

Johannesburg

Crumbs

Refugees

Sowetan
FEB 5, 1984

ABOUT 16 Pan Africanist Congress refugees, including two widows and five children, were expelled from the Kingdom of Lesotho.

One of them is the widow of Mr Thami Zani, who was killed by Lesotho security forces with five other people last year.

The PAC of Azania Observer Mission to the United Nations (UN) has appealed to the international community to grant political asylum to refugees deported from Lesotho.

A spokesman for the organisations said they had sent an urgent message to the UN general secretary, Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, appealing to him to intervene with the Lesotho authorities so that the refugees were not deported to South Africa.

The Lesotho government recently deported about 60 activists of the African National Congress (ANC) to Lusaka.

The PAC spokesman said the Frontline States should not be expected to shoulder the responsibility of accepting refugees alone, but other countries should also

PAC makes a plea

help.

The spokesman said the same appeal had been sent to the chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and to the UN Commissioner for Refugees.

The African group has called on the Security Council of the UN to meet urgently to consider the threat South Africa was posing to its neighbours and the plight of refugees.

Meanwhile the PAC has welcomed the establishment of the anti-apartheid centre outside the South African Embassy in Canberra, Australia, at the weekend.

The anti-apartheid centre was established by the Canberra-based Soweto Mobilisation Committee (SMC) and the Trade and Labour Council of Australia (TLC) and was named "Southern Africa Liberation Centre".

CHIEF ON ONE-MAN-ONE-VOTE

WHITE resistance to one-man-one-vote was such that it would have to be "rammed down their throats with the butts of guns, and would destroy all chance of it working, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said yesterday.

Chief Buthelezi said, given the degree of violence needed to bring

about one-man-one-vote in a unitary state, he had to think in terms of alternatives.

One-man-one-vote, however, remained his ideal. It was a workable ideal if it incorporated the rule of law, a Bill of rights, and an independent judiciary, the Chief Minister of KwaZulu said.

He was speaking at the ninth annual investment conference in Johannesburg.

He warned if a federal or other alternative system was not available to blacks, or if there could not be movement towards a one-man-one-vote system in phases acceptable to whites, there would

be nothing left but to destroy the country.

There were certainly no alternatives in which blacks were excluded from meaningful decision-making in the land of their birth.

Blacks and whites therefore had no option but to be involved jointly in politics in

which compromises had to be made.

Chief Buthelezi yesterday said Mr P W Botha's planned statutory National Council was a positive move. He would consider participating in it.

He commended the State President's courage in "grasping the

nettle of constitutional change so boldly with his own hands", and said the fact that Mr Botha would chair the council put it at the top of the Government's priorities.

However, Chief Buthelezi stressed that it needed certain ingredients to succeed.



CHIEF Buthelezi

Buthelezi lauds PW's 'courage'

KwaZulu leader seeks agenda with declared intentions

CHIEF Mangosuthu Buthelezi yesterday indicated that he saw Mr P W Botha's planned statutory national council as a positive move and that he would consider participating in it.

Chief Buthelezi commended the State President's courage in "grasping the nettle of constitutional change so boldly with his own hands" and said that the fact that Mr Botha would chair the council put it at the top of the Government's priorities.

However, the KwaZulu Chief Minister and Inkatha president — whose involvement in it is consid-

ered a key factor — stressed that the council needed certain essential ingredients in order to succeed.

Although Mr Botha had implied there would be no preconditions it was vital, he said, that there should be an agenda with declared intentions and that its deliberations should take place in public.

Chief Buthelezi told the ninth annual investment conference in Jo-

hannesburg that a one-vote system remained his first cherished ideal. It was a workable ideal if it incorporated the rule of law, a Bill of Rights and an independent judiciary.

White resistance to this workable model was such, however, that it would have to be "rammed down their throats with the butts of guns," and this would destroy all chance of it working.

Given the degree of vi-

olence needed to bring about one-man-one-vote in a unitary state, he had necessarily to think in terms of alternatives.

But, he warned, if a federal or other alternative system was not available to Blacks, or if there could not be movement towards a one-man-one-vote system in phases acceptable to Whites, there would be nothing left but to destroy the country.

There were certainly no alternatives in which Blacks were excluded from meaningful decision-making in the land of their birth. Given the circumstances, Blacks and Whites had no option but to be involved jointly in

politics in which compromises simply had to be made.

And, he said, there was no possibility of compromise politics taking place within the present tricameral Parliamentary system — it was as unworkable as apartheid and had to be abandoned.

Chief Buthelezi said one had only to remember the shallowness of their political perceptions evident in the 1983 referendum to perceive the difficulty Whites faced in abandoning the tricameral Parliament.

In that year the editor of the Sunday Times, Mr Tertius Myburgh, had probably said it all for White South Africa when he and his newspaper campaigned so vigorously for the tricameral system's acceptance as a first step in the right direction.

As the editor of the country's largest newspaper he had proclaimed the new constitution a vital step in the country's salvation.

Now that the new constitution was so patently in need of being scrapped, he feared that this mentality would be as

inept at doing the right thing as it had been capable of doing the wrong thing in 1983.

In the latest Sunday Times Mr Myburgh had written about the State President's Parliamentary opening address as though he had not passed "blundering opinions" about Mr Botha a short few years ago.

Mr Myburgh had urged Chief Buthelezi and others to test Mr Botha's commitments and, in speaking about the national statutory council, had said that "wise men" would make use of it.

"Mr Myburgh has on no single occasion left the luxury of his Johannes-

burg existence and ventured from his office to come to Ulundi and see me and hear Black views at first hand," the Chief said.

It was dangerous when an editor who bore such responsibility wrote as an opinion-former about Blacks without taking the trouble to get to know them.

Chief Buthelezi called on all newspaper editors to face the gravity of the situation faced by South Africa and to begin liaising "here in this country" with Black leaders who alone could play the definitive role which history was now expecting of them.

Trundling off to Lusaka (a reference to meetings with ANC leaders) was no substitute for direct, immediate contact with the people who mattered "here on the ground" — Sapa.



Mr KENT DURR ...
'out-moded regulations'