

Homeland mission causes red faces

Wed. February 25 1981

Own Correspondent

DUBLIN. — A most secret delegation from BophuthaTswana flew into Dublin last Friday and departed as secretly yesterday. Their mission was to recruit teachers for their republic and to make business contacts — one-armed bandits from Ballymount, Dublin, already go to BophuthaTswana, but via Australia or Britain, not direct from Ireland.

But the little delegation caused a few red faces in Dublin.

The Irish Republic doesn't recognise BophuthaTswana and these men were travelling on South African passports anyway. To make matters worse, they had holiday visas and yet were on a work trip.

A spokesman for the Foreign Affairs Ministry said hesitantly: "Well, yes, I did hear something of such a delegation but I've rather pushed it to one side."

The funniest side is that the delegation didn't need visas to visit the Republic of Ireland for a holiday.

GENERAL NEWS

Intensify struggle, OAU is told

Wed. February 25 1981

ADDIS ABABA. — Intensified guerrilla war and economic sanctions must be used to make South Africa negotiate on the future of SWA/Namibia, the Secretary-General of the Organisation of African Unity said yesterday.

"The stubbornness of South Africa hardly leaves us any choice," Mr Edem Kodjo, from Togo, said in his annual report to the OAU Council of Ministers.

"The struggle must be intensified. South Africa is deliberately hostile and consistently negative in its attitude to negotiations."

Referring to last month's Geneva conference, he said "South Africa alone must bear the responsibility for the failure of the conference which was the door to hope."

"The Council of Ministers must now take the necessary measures to break the deadlock. The question of sanctions must be taken up with the greatest determination to bring South Africa to reason. It is clear that the OAU must intensify support to Swapo," he added.

The OAU Liberation Committee, which channels funds to guerrilla movements in Southern Africa, has already doubled Swapo's annual allocation to about R525 000.

Mr Kodjo said the three

major crises confronting the 50-nation OAU were in Namibia, Chad and the Western Sahara.

A committee of OAU heads of state has condemned the proposed union between Chad and Libya and called for the withdrawal of Libyan troops.

Mr Kodjo said it was to be hoped that a durable solution to Chad's problems would be found within the context of the OAU Lagos agreement calling for supervised elections and an OAU peace-keeping force.

Meanwhile, the Polisario guerrilla movement fighting Moroccan troops in the Western Sahara continues to seek OAU membership after 26 member states supported its application at last year's OAU summit.

Morocco has threatened to withdraw from the OAU if Polisario's self-proclaimed Western Sahara Republic is admitted. A committee of OAU heads of state last year vainly recommended a referendum in the former Spanish colony.

Mr Kodjo said member states owed about R18-million in arrears and warned he was considering invoking a measure under which those states owing two years dues would be barred from participating in OAU votes or decisions. The 1981-82 budget would be about R14 500 000, he said. — Sapa

Reut

Jobless union move gains momentum

Wed. Feb. 23, 1981

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Reporter

ATTEMPTS to form an unemployed workers' union — chiefly as a defence against employers who dismiss striking workers — gained new impetus at a meeting of the South African Allied Workers Union at the weekend, according to the union's general secretary, Mr Samuel Kikine.

Saawu's East London branch has already announced the formation of an organisation for unemployed workers.

However, Mr Kikine said that a union meeting at the weekend had resolved to intensify efforts to form the unemployed workers' union.

Such a union would cater primarily for workers who lost their jobs after taking industrial action. He said it would enable them to remain members of the union movement even if they could not find jobs.

Other jobless workers could also join.

Another aim would be to prevent employers from using unemployed workers to take the place of those who lose their jobs.

Unemployed workers who joined the union would be encouraged not to take the jobs of union members who were fired.

"We hope the time will come

when employers will not be able to break the union by hiring new workers because they will find they that the new workers they want to hire are also union members," he said.

Saawu claims that employers — particularly in the East London area — are using the large pool of unemployed workers to thwart trade unionism by threatening to replace union activists with the unemployed.

Mr Kikine said the union would mobilise unemployed workers to pressure the Government to improve conditions for the jobless.

The meeting had also resolved "unanimously" to boycott the Hulett's sugar company after a labour dispute at one of its subsidiaries.

Organisations from Natal, the Cape and the Transvaal had agreed to support this call, he said.

He added that Saawu would soon begin to focus attention on the Pass laws.

The meeting had also been devoted in part to a memorial service for the "workers and poor people" killed in the SADF raid on ANC centres in Maputo.

"We believe politics and labour are inseparable and that there should be more politics in labour," he said.

THE RAND DAILY MAIL

Court frees 7 on Terror Act charges

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Pretoria Bureau

SEVEN Pretoria men were acquitted in the Pretoria Regional Court yesterday on four counts of contravening the Terrorism Act.

They are: Mr Arthur Elliot Phalatse, 22; Mr Thabo Simon Ndlovu, 19; Mr Jannitie Malaya Chiloane, 24; Mr William Ntwape Mampuru, 18; Mr Tshepo Albert Motlana, 23; Mr Ezekiel Oupa Masuku, 24; and Mr Matome Joseph Masuku, 24.

All had pleaded not guilty before Mr J H Bekker to participating in terrorist activities between March and July last year.

The state alleged that they enticed, encouraged and instigated other people in Atteridgeville, Mamelodi, Soshanguve and GaRankuwa to undergo military training outside the country so as to endanger the maintenance of law and order in the Republic.

The state also alleged that they wrongfully and unlawfully attempted, consented or took steps to undergo military training outside the country by leaving their homes and travelling to the Houdkop border post, near the South African-Swaziland border.

Mr Ezekiel Masuku was also charged with inciting, urging and recruiting his co-accused

and other people to receive military training outside the country.

The court heard that the recruits were taken by car from Soweto to the Houdkop border post after leaving their homes in Pretoria.

They had been told that they would join Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), ANC's military wing, once they had skipped the country, but were arrested along the Piet Retief-Potgietershoek road last June.

In their denial, the seven said they had intended going to a funeral at Potgietershoek and also opening a new branch of the Funeral Brigade, a youth organisation which assisted adults with funeral arrangements.

In his judgment the magistrate said the state had not proved beyond reasonable doubt the seven men had intended to leave the country for the purpose of undergoing military training.

The state had relied on the evidence of a single accomplice witness whose evidence could not be corroborated, although he had impressed the court.

He said the evidence of the seven men that they were members of the Funeral Brigade could possibly be true, and they had to be given the benefit of the doubt.