

(Newsketter of the African National Congress.)

1. EditorialBLOODY WEDNESDAY.

Wednesday, the 16th. of June will go down in the annals of the history of South Africa as a day of wholesale massacre of innocent peaceful, unarmed children demonstrators by the bloody and murderous police of Vorster. This cold-blooded murder which at the time of going to the press had already claimed a hundred lives of both old and young and a thousand in wounded, is another criminal instance of genocide on top of others that are occurring with frequency in our country.

What crime did these children commit? Our children died because they dared to express a wish to be taught in the language of their choice. The fascists could not countenance this decisive action by the oppressed Black children and wrongly hoped that their bullets would frighten them away from action.

To Vorster and his Western friends who arm him, we say: the ruthless killing and maiming of the oppressed will not shake our determination to overthrow your Apartheid regime. Already, the killings have united the Black people, young and old and they are demanding their freedom now. We further say: we shall continue to defy your machine guns and murder squads with even greater determination. We shall organise better; we shall arm ourselves; we shall consolidate our forces to make sure that your crimes do not go unpunished. These racist murders who are so eager to machine-gun unarmed kids and women took to their heels when they came face to face with armed freedom fighters of Umkhonto Wesizwe in Zimbabwe in 1967 and 1968. Their bravado and swagger vanished completely when our MPLA comrades trounced them in Angola.

Comrades and Countrymen, this is not the time to weep over our fallen heroes. It is time to hit back at the enemy with everything we have got. It is time to be more skilful and to strike at the enemy in small groups so as to vanish quickly.

It is time to hit where he is weak and least prepared.

Let us disperse him and scatter his forces by hitting at the same time in Cape Town, Pretoria, Port Elizabeth, Bloemfontein, East London, Maritzburg and other places. Let us make him confused so that he should not know where next we will attack.

The African National Congress, which leads the National Liberation struggle in our country has created its military wing, Umkhonto Wesizwe to provide you with the art of fighting. Let us, therefore, join Umkhonto in even bigger numbers and train so as to become better fighters. Bloody Wednesday has shown the urgency of the task to smash the Vorster regime of terror and violence.

Countrymen and Comrades, you have already shown your guts and determination. With such courage and unity, our victory is assured.

Therefore, in order to have our effective and merciless revenge, let us prepare ourselves secretly in small groups and get in touch with our organisation. The A.N.C. is there and lives amongst you; let us convert our anger into revolutionary action. With heads held high let us follow the example of Soweto and the rest of the Reef, Ngoye, Thabong, Turfloop, Gugulethu, Nyanga, Edenvale Coloured Township, Wentworth, etc., and harass the enemy on all fronts.

The African National Congress dips its revolutionary banner in memory of all those comrades who have fallen in the heroic battle. They have not died in vain and the oppressed will continue to fight until victory is achieved. To all of you, we say: Forward, brave fighters

Maintain the revolutionary unity displayed by the Witwatersrand University, the universities of Cape Town and Natal. The demonstrations by these students with the workers confirm that the blood of our people has made us stronger and more determined in carrying on the struggle: FATHERLAND OR DEATH! VICTORY IS CERTAIN! AMANOLA NGAWETHU!

2. JUNE 26th FREEDOM DAY

This is the day of re-dedication born in the crucible of struggles and campaigns of the National Liberation Movement against White domination. It is a day when the oppressed people take new and important resolutions to prosecute our struggle, closing ranks and remembering all our fallen comrades and heroes who laid down their lives for our cause of freedom and democracy.

This year FREEDOM DAY comes when a new and glorious chapter is being written in the National Liberation struggle of South Africa. With bold determination and renewed courage, our people are challenging the racist power structure and demanding revolutionary transformation of the system. The revolutionary ferment is a direct result of a number of factors that are rapidly turning the scales in favour of our National Democratic revolution. These are:

- 1) The untiring efforts of ANC underground and other democratic forces in organising the people and uniting them in fighting capitalist exploitation and national oppression.
- 2) The inspiring victories of our comrades in Angola and Mozambique against Portuguese colonialism and internal reactionaries, the humiliating defeats suffered by the South African army in the hands of the M P L A and the intensification of the armed struggle in Namibia and Zimbabwe.
- 3) The overwhelming solidarity internationally with the oppressed, as demonstrated by:
 - (a) the unwavering assistance given by the Socialist countries to the National Liberation movements; and
 - (b) the stepped-up campaign by both the O A U and the United Nations Organisation to render all-out support for the National Liberation movements.
- 4) Inflation- which hits hardest at the Black population in the form of shocking rises in the prices of food, coal and clothing, in rents, in bus and train fares, and in the rise of unemployment.
- 5) Increased police and BOSS violence and brutality against all patriotic forces, and the creation of more vicious laws of repression.

In very clear terms, the Black people have stated that in the liberation wars that are confronting Vorster's government, they will not be found on the side of the oppressor! Also, in many letters sent to the "The World", Vorster's blatant lie about 'racial harmony' in South Africa has been blasted with utmost contempt. As far as the Black masses are concerned, all 'cosmetic' gimmicks like the opening of the Nico Malan Theatre, the establishment of a Black bank, the independence of the Transkei, 'Independence', etc., are seen as futile attempts to entrench and give credibility to the hated policy of Apartheid. Once again, Umkhonto WeSizwe has demonstrated its vitality and its ability to co-ordinate its efforts with the activities of the masses by detonating a pamphlet bomb in the heart of Johannesburg at a time when thousands of patriots were demonstrating against the notorious Terrorism Trials.

Let us now resolve to use this revolutionary climate to engage the enemy on all fronts and to raise the struggle to new heights. The battles that have already been raging at the Heinemann Electric factory, at the gold mines of the Free State, the bus-boycot at KwaThema must be spread throughout the country. Our demands for the immediate recognition of our own independent, democratic trade unions, for an end to the harassment of S A C T U and other Black trade unions, for the abandonment