

9. We have reached the position when no organisation in the liberatory movement, and, no individual (apart from sellouts) regardless of reputation or image, will dare to publicly advocate participation in the Tricameral Circus or to advocate abandonment of the policy of non-collaboration. Those who have tried it received a sharp rap on the knuckles. Others were not so lucky.

DITHERERS NOT WANTED

In this ethos of high political consciousness and militancy in relation to the dummy bodies, we still hear voices of ditherers. We are told that the boycott is "a tactic and not a principle". The implication is clear. "Today we boycott and tomorrow we participate". We are told of an "ongoing debate" as to whether to participate or not. The names of those who stand for participation are carefully concealed. In view of all that has been said above, we find this approach not only sterile but highly dangerous. **IT IS BUT A SMALL STEP FROM DITHERING TO ACTUAL COLLABORATION.**

CONCLUSION

It is the task of the leadership to:—

- *consolidate the achievements and victories of the oppressed people.
- *take the struggle on to a higher plateau.
- *work for greater unity of the various segments of the liberatory movement.

It is NOT the task of the leadership to:—

- *confuse people by acting and behaving inconsistently.
- *to undermine Unity which has been achieved on a fundamental policy.
- *undo a major achievement of the liberatory movement as a whole.
- *try and slip through the back-door a reactionary policy which has been soundly discredited.

THE POLICY OF NON-COLLABORATION IS HERE TO STAY!

BARTOLOMEU DIAZ

This year marks the 500th anniversary of the arrival of Bartolomeu Diaz on the southern shores of South Africa. On the 3rd February 1488 Diaz landed at Mossel Bay. Four years earlier, in 1484, another Portuguese, Diago Cam landed on the coast of Namibia near Swakopmund.

The ruling class in South Africa are celebrating the event with much pomp, ceremony and tax payers' money. The oppressed in this country see this event as the beginning of the invasion of South Africa. The oppressed have no cause to celebrate and are boycotting the celebrations just as they have boycotted the Van Riebeeck celebrations in 1952. Even Hendrickse and his cronies of the House of Representatives did not attend the Diaz festival at Mossel Bay. Beach apartheid is still enforced at Mossel Bay. And we know how Hendrickse likes to swim.

Diaz's circumnavigation of the Cape enroute to the East was an economic expedition for gold, silver, ivory and slaves. Portugal was one of the first European countries to embark on these expeditions which led to the invasion of African states and the establishment of Portuguese colonies.

These colonies enhanced the Portuguese trade not only in minerals and raw materials but in slavery. During the 15th Century the Portuguese and the Spanish established a flourishing slave trade from the West Coast of Africa to the colonies in Central and South America. The Dutch, French and British soon entered the field, fought and competed with each other for the slave trade and also established colonies in Africa. Africa enriched Europe. Europe raped Africa.

In this regard "Mnguni" in his book of "Three Hundred Years", states:

"Africa made a particularly heavy and notable contribution to "Western" civilization, for it was from Africa that the main supply of slaves came for two continents – the Americas and Africa itself. The slave traffic, traffic in human beings was the most important and major trade of all. This traffic laid Africa in ruins. The total European slave trade in Africa cost some thirty million lives, ruined the tribal and feudal civilizations of the indigenous peoples, and enabled the masters of Europe to live in luxury and democracy."

It is no wonder that the Portuguese joined the racist regime in South Africa in commemorating this 500th anniversary.

It is symbolic that Dr Eduardo Serra Bandao, president of the National Geographic Society of Lisbon, Portugal, presented to Mr P W Botha, president of the racist regime in South Africa, a replica of an astrolabe, a navigational instrument used by Dias in his voyages.

To the oppressed in this country, the voyage of Dias to South Africa paved the way for the eventual conquest of South Africa and the subjugation of her people. The oppressed have no cause to celebrate.

WORKER SHARE-OWNERSHIP

Share-ownership by workers in South Africa ushers in a new method to exploit and continue the servitude of the oppressed workers. It has received a mixed reception from workers' unions and has become a major talking-point in business circles.

WHAT IS THE SCHEME?

The scheme is called Employee Share Ownership Plans (ESOP's). Through this plan employees are offered shares in the company in which they work. The concept of co-optation of employees by the capitalists is by no means new, but, the ingenuity of the scheme now being proffered is that whereas previously this option was only available to employees in executive and managerial positions, it is now being dangled at the mass of the workers in the companies employing this plan.