

Mozambique is the victim of a callous manouevre engineered by the Imperialists.

REMOVALS

The Botha Government professes to "change the face of South Africa" with its new constitutional dispensation. However, the oppressed people in South Africa are aware that the contrary is true, namely, that the present regime, in the guise of bringing about change is in fact entrenching oppression and apartheid.

It is estimated that since 1960 over 3,5 million of all sections of the oppressed people were affected by removals. Of this, 2,7 million were Africans. The Indian and Coloured removals were done in terms of the Group Areas Act. Nearly 34 000 Coloureds were bundled out of the famous District Six Area and were dumped in the desolate Mitchell plains and Atlantis areas. The Indians in Durban were "settled" in the Phoenix and Chatsworth areas.

Insofar as the African section of the population is concerned, removals were carried out primarily to:-

- (i) control the oppressed;
- (ii) supply cheap labour for the mines, industries and farms;
- (iii) frustrate the political aspirations of the oppressed;
- (iv) consolidate the Bantustans;
- (v) remove the so-called Black spots and limit the number of Africans living on White owned farms;
- (vi) tighten influx control so that the Africans cannot move freely to urban areas;
- (vii) limit the number of Africans in urban areas and to give permanent residence to a handful of Africans so as to create a middle class amongst them.

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In the early 1960's, thousands of people were forcibly removed by the Government. The adverse publicity which these forced removals attracted, forced the state to adopt more subtle methods so that the people will be moved "voluntarily". Because of the acute shortage of homes in the urban areas for Africans, many of them were forced into the Bantustans. Furthermore, there is always the ever present threat of being "endorsed out" from an urban area. Farm labourers found their living and working conditions on White farms so oppressive, that they left of their "own choice" to one or other Bantustan.

Some of the tricks employed by the oppressors to force the people to leave a particular area was to let conditions and services deteriorate and to increase the rents, and to offer cheaper accommodation in nearby Bantustans. For example, in 1982 in a township in Kimberley the rent was increased to such an extent that the people were forced to go to a nearby township in Bophuthatswana.

The massive removal and re-settlement of the oppressed peoples makes any talk of change in South Africa a mockery.

DO YOU KNOW THAT:

- (i) Pat Poovalingam (counterfeit Solidarity) addressed the youth wing of the Nationalist Party but has not found the courage to talk to the youth of the oppressed.

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