



PW, MAY DAY'S OUR HOLIDAY

So we
don't need
yours !



PW Botha says

- the first Friday of every May will be "Workers Day" - a public holiday.

COSATU says

● No thanks. You can't give us what we have already won. May Day is ours. May 1st is ours. We had it last year. We'll take it this year. We'll keep it next year. Every year on May 1st we will have our holiday - our workers holiday. We have taken and demanded and won this already. The employers of this country have recognised that May Day is ours. It is written into agreements affecting hundreds and thousands of workers that workers will have a public holiday on May 1st and workers will be paid for it. So what is this first Friday every May? Who did you consult? Who gave you the mandate? We workers never raised the demand. We said May Day was ours. May Day is May 1st every year - whatever day it falls on. We told employers it was something we could not give up. And we won't.

PW Botha also says

- the state of emergency must stay
- the group areas act, bantustans and apartheid education must stay
- the police and army must stay in the townships
- people must stop campaigning for the release of detained leaders
- people must stop campaigning for the unbanning of banned organisations
- opposition organisations must stop getting funds from overseas
- people must stop promoting organisations like street committees and defence units
- the ANC must be crushed.

COSATU says

● we are opposed to what PW Botha says. We think the only way stability can be restored in our country is if:

- **apartheid is abolished completely**
- **the emergency is lifted immediately**
- **leaders in detention and prison are released**

- **the army and police are withdrawn from the townships**
- **basic democratic rights are guaranteed**
- **banned organisations are unbanned**

Meanwhile PW Botha's police

- lay siege to COSATU House
- shoot COSATU workers
- ban COSATU's meetings
- detain COSATU leaders and workers
- ban COSATU's newspaper
- raid COSATU offices constantly
- monitor COSATU meetings and offices
- seize thousands and thousands of COSATU publications and pamphlets
- accuse COSATU of promoting communism by campaigning for a living wage
- accuse COSATU of being part of a conspiracy with banned underground organisations like the ANC and SACP to overthrow the existing political and economic system by violence

This is the background to Botha's white election.

COSATU workers reject the racist and undemocratic elections. Hundreds and thousands of workers have had enough and are outraged by the racist white elections. Many workers throughout the country are saying they might vote with their feet on May 6th.

Workers are demanding the right : to organise; to hold rallies; to promote the living wage campaign; to speak and write what we feel; to campaign for the release of our detained leaders, the lifting of the emergency and the unbanning of banned organisations; to struggle for a non-racial united democratic South Africa.

Unlike the Botha government, COSATU is a democratic organisation. COSATU will continue to represent the views and carry out the actions decided by the majority of workers. Forward to May Day on May 1st Forward to the living wage campaign Forward to a united non-racial democratic South Africa

and as for your racist 'election' on May 6, we don't need that either. workers might 'vote' anyway ... with their feet!