

# An Appeal To The International Community

Speech by Comrade Delinga, on death penalties  
imposed on Comrades Lubisi, Mashigo and Manana.  
(Member of the National Executive Committee)

Our history is saturated with our blood and sacrifice. Blood spilt by the fascist white racist minority to defend the imperialist multinationals. Why has the international community declared apartheid an international crime against humanity and yet find it difficult to take effective measures to end this crime?

Is it not that the imperialist countries who wield great power in international affairs find that the underdeveloped countries cannot exercise their independence on issues that affect their fellowmen who are murdered, exploited and oppressed? It is this economic might which the imperialists wield as a result of their plundering of the resources which belong to the struggling masses of the underdeveloped countries and produced by the sweat of the brow of the toiling masses, which enables these powers to ignore solutions that could ease the agony of the oppressed in putting their weight against apartheid.

## VIOLATION

Instead, we are told of human rights which are 'violated' in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries when the Ku Klux Klan is allowed to train murderers inside the United States and the US judges find it necessary to defend these murderers by allowing them to go scot-free for these racist crimes. When the progressive and Black people of the United States demonstrate against the violation of the highest human right - life, the might of the US is brought to bear on unarmed, innocent people.

The South African racists are also moving in the same direction in as far as their judges are concerned. Is it possible that part of the international community led by the US has the psychology of white racism which is reminiscent of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" type of slavery? This we make out from the callousness of the white-dominated American government's attitude when Blacks are murdered and the high level of concern when whites have their lives in danger. What is tragic at

times is that at times even our fellow blacks endorse the line taken by the United States.

On the 10th October, 1980, the Rand Daily Mail reported that: "The chief executive of Siemens SA, Mr E. Wentges yesterday argued that the Western world maintain its free market links with South Africa despite the existence of discriminatory policies. At a Standard Bank seminar in Frankfurt, Mr Wentges posed the question: 'Are the labour market situation and relations between the social groups in South Africa so bad that the world must interfere?' Mr Wentges said that in the history of all peoples discrimination had played its part, rooted in law or silently accepted and tolerated. From the beginning South Africa had applied different yardsticks towards groups of different racial origins, which, as a rule, were used but rarely codified... He said: 'As part of free enterprise South African companies - whether national or multinational - aim at necessary changes, as a matter of principle, not revolutionary, but through the speeding up of evolutionary expansion'."

Let us ask the international community to stop being dragged by the nose by the butchers of innocent people under the cloak of human rights. Let us not allow that we look dishonest by declaring apartheid a crime against humanity and yet support it by not taking effective measures to eradicate it from the face of the earth.

## SENTENCE

Today, three of our children - Johnson Lubisi, Petrus Mashigo and Naphtali Manana have been sentenced to death for treason against a government which is perpetuating a crime against humanity and our people. Can you commit treason against a state which does not afford you the right to vote, the right of equal human rights, education, the right to share in the wealth of the country, the wealth which is produced by the sweat of the brow of you and your people, a government that regards you as game to be hunted and shot down, a government which uses our children's lives to satisfy the sadistic lust of their army and police? The answer is a big "NO". The eagerness of the racists for the blood of our young sons and daughters is testimony to their fear for this generation, a generation that was shot at in a frenzy of rage in the streets of Soweto, Mamelodi, Guguletu, New Brighton and Bonteheuwel in 1976.

And throughout the country in this Year of the Charter in places like the Free State, where the boers thought they could

intimidate our people they failed. It is also because of the solidarity and also taking their part in the struggle for freedom of the Coloured and Indian rejecting the crumbs that fall from the tables of the white racist regime. In places where the mighty working class in this Year of the Worker is asserting its might to get a fair share of the wealth they produce. It is the might, the glory and the power of Umkhonto militants in feats against them in Moroka, Orlando, Booyens, Sasol and other acts of bravery.

The Pretoria boers, their soldiers, police and informers have failed to cower this generation represented by our three comrades, Solomon Mahlangu, James Mange, young people who are carrying out the tradition of the Battle of Isandlawana, the tradition of Wankie and Sipolilo, the tradition of men like Mini and his comrades, men who went to the gallows singing.

What does the international community expect us to do? What will the international community and those who support this wanton killing say if in anger we went to kindergartens with "An eye for an eye", "a tooth for a tooth". They will call us savages and barbarians, forgetting that they themselves are modernised sophisticated barbarians.

## KILLING

We in the African National Congress and its allies and our People's Army, have tried hard to avoid the killing of innocent people. But it might begin to be regarded as irresponsibility for our people to let their children be killed and the act is left unpunished.

We call upon the international community to assist us to avoid a situation where our people will begin to say: "All is fair in War".

We ask the international community to save the lives of our children and brothers not as a favour but as a right in following their own resolution.

To you my people, there comes a time when a people is left with one and only one choice. That time has long come and we the vanguard of our people say: "NO! to racist brutality". We want to defend our people. If the racists cannot listen to reason we shall take the steps to shoot it out. What type of people are we, people who must look at their children and wives being killed? Even animals don't allow that type of thing.

Those who amongst us are busy defending the killing of our children by selling out and attacking the correct line of the

people when we hit back, those who say we are not at war when we die must answer the simple question: On whose side are they? Are you counted in our ranks?

We call upon the international community to save the lives of our children. Therefore, let us organise as Christians. This government that is killing children, this government that kills clergymen can only be said to be a government that is not Christian and by order of Jesus Christ let us fight it. We, who are workers cannot watch our children die. What will we be working for? To feed children for their death at the hands of fascism? Let us strike and destroy the firms which the multinationals defend by supporting our enemy. We must do away with these sell-outs who come to us and say "we were in Umkhonto" but are now working for the enemy.

This act of murdering our children and sentencing them to long-term imprisonment points to the urgency of the implementation of the Freedom Charter, the document which guarantees freedom for all. This road is tough. It goes via the gallows and dungeons.

**FORWARD TO A PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT!**

**MAATLA KE A RONA!**

**POWER TO THE PEOPLE!**

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## **I Speak my Mind**

The sentencing of our three Comrades: Johnson Lubisi, Petrus Mashigo and Naphtali Manana, to death by the racist judge roused indignation among the entire membership of our movement and MK. Immediately after this brutal judgement was announced different units of MK got together to discuss the implication of this judgement. Below we publish some views expressed by different comrades.

**Emil Monde**

When the fascist regime of Pretoria passed a death sentence on Mini, Khayinga and Mkhaba in 1963, it thought as it still thinks now, that it was going to instill fear into the people of South Africa with the intention of subduing them