

to the cause of the people was tremendous. Let it be said again - Fumes was a fine fellow: he had pluck, warmth and boundless love for his fellow sufferers.

So, that evening while he was under a severe relapse in the presence of his girl-friend, Monty, whom he was planning to make a life-companion, Comrade Edwin Jezile "Fumes" Mkhwanazi, lifted his right hand fist in the salute of the African National Congress, managed to squeeze out in a voice only known to asthmatics: "AMANDLA". And the lights went off. A great man has passed away.

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## Bantustan Independence' Fraud

As the Year of the Freedom Charter and the South African Worker draws to a close, our people are locked in serious battles with the oppressor in demonstration of their utter rejection of the Apartheid system. Strong voices from various quarters representing popular feeling continue to be heard at home and abroad. Amongst them two outspoken opponents of the status quo, compelled to leave the country in the wake of fiendish harassment and impending incarceration, have been energetically drawing the attention of international opinion to the plight of our people in the hands of the criminal Pretoria regime and its stooges. These are Thozamile Botha, a renowned trade union leader from Port Elizabeth, in the Cape and King Sabata Dalindyebo, head of the Tembus in the Transkei. The latter saw it all in the Bantustans that it was a fraud designed by the racists to rob his people. At the onset King Dalindyebo undertook to fight. He had seen that all this high-blood pressure salesmanship was meant to rule the people and keep them divided. To hypnotise the people by giving them the impression that they are being helped. Where 'leaders' are chosen for the people and groomed to oppress them.

Below we publish extracts from a statement by King Sabata Dalindyebo at a press conference in Zambia on the 3rd of December, 1980.

"When Pretoria decided to introduce the policy of bantustans in which they expected the traditional rulers to play a prominent part, many of us had to ask ourselves the question whether service in these bantustan institutions would be in the people. It is a fact that throughout South Africa, including Transkei, the area I come from, the people rejected this bantustan scheme and demanded freedom and democracy in the country of our birth.

"In this situation my role was clear. It was to speak out against the fragmentation of our country, in favour of liberty. But in the Transkei there were other traditional rulers, in particular Chief Kaizer Matanzima to whom I am related, who decided to go against the will of the people and agreed to serve as Pretoria's tool against the interests of the people. In exchange, Pretoria gave such collaborators fat salaries, posh cars and houses.

"When Matanzima was preparing to accept the fraudulent independence for the Transkei, to break the people's resistance, he offered me the post of president of this non-existing state, hoping that the prospect of ill-gotten wealth would attract me and persuade me to betray the people. I am glad to say that Matanzima failed in his intentions.

"Today the Transkei is ruled over by the cruel, greedy and corrupt Matanzima brothers and their close collaborators, this group is amassing a lot of wealth at the expense of the people. It maintains itself in power through the conduct of a campaign of terror against the people. Nobody in the Transkei feels secure from arbitrary victimisation by Matanzima's police army. This includes Matanzima's own collaborators. The area is under the permanent state of emergency.

"The people are starving. Famine is wide-spread and will become worse. The people have no land. They have no jobs. When they leave the Transkei to look for jobs, the white officials in the labour offices fling their so-called passports straight into their faces and tell them to return to their independent state. In fact one stands a better chance of getting a job if one produces a South African pass, a so-called reference book, than if one produces Transkei papers. On these poverty-stricken people, the Matanzima brothers have imposed heavy taxes to ensure a comfortable life for themselves.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I am also President of the Transkei Democratic Party. The Party was formed in 1963 to unite and mobilise the people of the Transkei against the Bantustan

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scheme and lead them in the struggle for a free and united South Africa. Matanzima is very much afraid of the Democratic Party because he knows that it represents the opinion of the vast majority of the people of the Transkei. Therefore he consistently bans our meetings, arrests and tortures our activists and intimidates our followers. But because it represents the truth, Matanzima has failed to destroy the Democratic Party.

"As for myself, last year Matanzima arrested me and had me charged with insulting the office of 'President' of 'Transkei' - that is, himself. All I had done was to ask the question. What kind of passport is this? Namely the 'Transkei' passport, which nobody in the world is prepared to recognise? In order to travel, Matanzima himself has to ask Pretoria to issue him travel papers, otherwise all he can do is to shuttle between the 'Transkei' and Pretoria. I had also asked the question. What kind of government is this whose ministers have pockets full of money when the ordinary people had to search garbage dumps for food? Matanzima did not like this. Therefore he dragged me to court and had me fined and later dethroned as King.

"At the beginning of August, Matanzima once more sent his police to arrest me. Fortunately, sources close to Matanzima had already warned me that I was going to be arrested again. They had also informed me that I would not come out of prison alive. I therefore decided to evade the police and like my cousin, Nelson Mandela, twenty years ago, live the life of a fugitive.

"I am now here and will continue the struggle for the liberation of South Africa from outside. But I would like to get this message to the people of the Transkei that they must continue the struggle and must refuse to submit to the terrorism of the Matanzima brothers. The struggle has to be conducted in the Transkei and knowing the people of this area, I am convinced that they will stand on their feet in their millions and, together with the rest of the people of the Transkei sweep away the Matanzimas and their bosses in Pretoria.

"Finally, I would like to assure the people of South Africa, including those of the Transkei, that my presence outside the borders of our country is only a temporary retreat to ensure that I am able to continue the fight for our liberty. I will continue the struggle until our country is free. As long as I live, as long as I have so much strength as to lift my little finger. I will dedicate all my existence to the destruction of the apartheid system and its bantustan offshoot..."