

allow the broad democratic freedom and control over the national wealth was reached. A Front was announced by the Communist Party, Farabundi Marti Popular Liberation Front and the National Resistance. This was followed by the formation of the Broad Revolutionary Mass B o d y composed of the following: Democratic National Union, 28 February People's League, Unitary Popular Action Front (FAPU) and the Popular Revolutionary Bloc.

The combined and patient efforts of the revolutionaries led to the formation of the Revolutionary Democratic Front under the leadership of Enrique Alvarez Cordoba. It is composed of the country's Trade Unions, peasants organisations, National University of Salvador, National Federation of Small Businessmen, the Revolutionary Mass Co-ordinating Body and other armed organisations. Enrique Alvarez described the Front as "a political instrument formed by Salvadorean people to promote their liberation struggle and build a new and just, human, democratic and independent society".

Today the Salvadorean revolution is on the threshold of victory. The military junta is pinned against the wall. Even the US intervention will not save it. The h o m e l a n d of Farabundi Marti will win.



OBITUARY

Bishop Ambrose Reeves

On the night of Tuesday December 23, 1980, the lights of Bishop Ambrose Reeves went off in England, his homeland to which he was deported by the racist South African regime in September 1960. He was 81 years old.

The death of "Our Bishop", as as he was humbly called by our people, does not bring the sunset to the struggle against apartheid. It is a milepost of the journey to a democratic South Africa in which he has also left his mark. "Our Bishop", to repeat, is the deepest affection in our dictionary

Dr. Ambrose Reeves is the symbol of a man who did not fool with the Bible but took part in the cause he served by preaching the Sermon on the Mount and also taking part in carrying the cross of freedom. With this in mind we shall always carry his burning spirit in our hearts until freedom is won and the happiness he helped in creating flourishes in our country. Where fascism tried to sow the seeds of hatred, human dignity and love shall be the order of the day

His very life bears witness to his spiritual activities which must have kindled in him the Marxist reflections that one cannot "pull down the tent of heaven if one is up in the clouds". One has to be down on earth. The roots of religion are 'earthly' in origin. "Our Bishop" must have had a formula for just how he had to tussle with the equations of the real life that surrounded him, and at the same time managed to preach the Sermon on the Mount with an honest mind, also carried the flaming torch of justice with the same hand that took the Bible to the church, which to him was not just a shrine but the power that spurred him to the just cause.

On Monday December 10, 1979 - a day which coincided with the 31st anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights - the British Anti-Apartheid Movement organised a meeting to celebrate the 80th birthday of Dr. Ambrose Reeves.

Messages from all over the world - from organisations of a diverse nature - were read. Comrade Oliver Tambo, the President of the African National Congress, delivered the main speech. He reviewed with a concentrated passion in the justice of the struggle against apartheid, oppression and inhumanity; a man so sensitive and perceptive, a man who dedicated all his energy with a great measure of sacrifice, to the cause of our people. Dr. Ambrose Reeves personified the principles of the United Nations.

Giving evidence to a commission of inquiry into riots at Dube Township in Johannesburg, Bishop Ambrose Reeves said:

"There is a rising tide of hatred, resentment, bitterness and frustrations" among Africans. Parents resented what was happening to their children under Bantu Education, African leaders had no voice in the affairs of their people and workers resented the unsatisfactory conditions of work.

"Visiting Lichtenburg after one faithful member of our congregation had been killed in the riots there, I expressed my regret that this man has been killed, only to be told that

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graph, enlarged it and stuck it on a cardboard adorned with a red star and crossed flags. Who did it and when, where this home-made poster hung is something Grandmother Marie does not know. But thank her we must just the same for preserving it.

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I was not to regret his death 'because he died for us!' We shall soon face a martyr complex of Africans going to their heroes, this would be a serious thing in any society. For not a sten-gun can hold back in such a condition".

Dr. Ambrose Reeves denounced Bantu Education, "whatever the cost, we must make it clear and plain to the Government, the members of the church and all the African people that we disagree so profoundly with the policy.... that we cannot be a party to it in any shape or form".

When he awarded "Our Bishop" the Isithwalandwe, our Secretary-General, Comrade Alfred Nzo said:

"Dr. Ambrose Reeves held his head very high refusing to be daunted by the savage barbarity of the reign of terror in our country.

"Bishop Ambrose Reeves is well-known not only to our people, among whom he had lived and worked until the regime of terror could not tolerate his presence in South Africa, but we are certain that the progressive and democratic forces in the United Kingdom amongst whom he had continued to work for our cause ever since he left South Africa, hold him in very high esteem indeed. We highly value his contribution as one of the architects of the powerful solidarity movement that has been built in this country in support of the heroic struggle of our people. He deserves the high award of ISITHWALANDWE which is a symbol of the undaunted heroes of our struggle and people".

Hamba kahle

Sithwalandwe!