

Editorial

White South Africa is swiftly reaching the realization that it is in a state of crisis. The Botha-Malan junta has a master-plan to ensure the survival of white supremacy in our beloved Azania. This master-plan has been hatched in conference halls in Washington DC, London, Paris and Bonn.

We know that Imperialism painstakingly studies liberation movements all over the globe and decides which of these movements are co-optable. We know that millions of dollars, pounds and marks are invested in infiltrating liberation movements and coming up with political "solutions" which ensure that the imperialists and their local gendarmes maintain a tight grip on economic power.

Imperialism has assessed the Azanian liberation movement and is now actively seeking to draw the "co-optables" within the broad liberation movement to a "national convention". The national convention will be designed to ensure power in the hands of the system of racism and capitalism.

It is up to all revolutionaries to be wary of the National Convention strategy and to join AZAPO in making that strategy untenable.

The National Convention strategy has already begun sorting out the wheat from the chaff in the Azanian liberation movement. It has created a mighty cleft on the Ted Kennedy issue.

AZAPO unequivocally rejected the Massachusetts senator on the grounds of his horrifying capitalist background and his undisguised imperialist ambition. This clearly put AZAPO in the forefront of those opposing the entire move towards a National Convention of which the Kennedy visit was a cardinal part. Naturally, this has earned AZAPO the everlasting ire of all those who support Imperialism, Capitalism and rampant Racism.

It is fitting to sound a warning to wolves donning sheep's clothing in the liberation movement that the Azanian people will scorn them forever for their selfishness and their criminal blindness in fighting AZAPO, denouncing it or betraying it.

In this issue of *Frank Talk* we focus on the much-vaunted "objectivity" of the white press and expose it for the charade that it is. This is a timely reminder of the dire need for alternative media which will spread the seeds of revolutionary thought far and wide. We earnestly hope that our sister publication *Azanian Focus* will evolve to meet this need. We require media which articulates the aspirations and yearnings of the Black workers. Only when what the

media says corresponds to the loves, hates, fears and frustrations of the Black masses will we accept it, take it as ours and rely on it to further the liberatory cause. The white press is an instrument of the system, it is tied hand and foot to the interests of racism and capitalism.

The rulers' efforts to perpetuate a shamocracy are being heightened by the revolutionary tide which is gripping the Black masses in every street, *pondokkie*, factory, farm and shop in Mother Azania. Life for the Black people has acquired an object: to eliminate exploitation, to govern themselves by and for themselves and to construct a free Azania. And the masses are well aware that liberation never comes as a gift from anybody, it has to be moulded with their own hands.

Frank Talk takes this opportunity to pay tribute to one of the greatest son of the Azanian Revolution, Onkgopotse Abraham Ramothibi Tiro who was murdered by a parcel bomb in Botswana on February 1, 1974.

BANNED

Frank Talk Volume 1 Number 5 has been banned for distribution in terms of Government Notice 9563 of 18 January 1985 and the *Viva Azapo* calendar for 1985 was also banned on 21 December 1984 as their contents are "prejudicial to the safety of the state, the general welfare or the peace and good order."

Tiro's death is a painful reminder of all that we still have to accomplish in the Azanian revolution. Tiro was resolute in stating that nothing short of the repossession of vanquished soil will begin to satisfy Black aspirations. Not for Ramothibi the shortcuts of "national conventions", shamocracies, negotiation and procrastination!

We in Black Consciousness Movement do not promise any easy victories: we are aware that the struggle is long, tortuous and arduous. We have a duty to curb the growing list of martyrs — every day sees a Black father, mother, son or daughter killed by the murderous settler colonialists. And the only way to end this carnage is to actively dedicate ourselves to the cause of Black liberation.

The Fifth National Congress of AZAPO at Retreat, Cape Town saw revolutionaries soberly pondering the strategies of work stoppages, stayaways and boycotts and once again



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brought home the point that BC knows no holy cows. We wish the new Central Committee a successful year and remind them that we, the Azanian masses, are looking upon them for grit, determination and direction in the gruelling days to come.

The persecution of AZAPO member Comrade Dr Aubrey Mokoape by the racist South African Medical and Dental Council and their continued tardiness to prosecute the Biko doctors provokes us to consider whether the role of the physician in Azania ends with the stethoscope and the syringes. It is often the case that physicians from amongst the oppressed and the exploited have a stake in the system precisely because of the incomparably high standard of living that capitalism provides for them. Physicians in South Africa have to come to grips with their Blackness and employ their skills to participate fully in the ethos and pathos of the Revolution. Only then can we accept them as "our" doctors and technicians until then they fully belong to the murderous world of apartheid medicine.

Ali Shariati's piece on the self-rationalization of capitalism shows how the political strategy of the National Convention is complemented by the economic strategy of bourgeoisifying the working class.

It is hoped that the contributions in this issue will bring attention to the multiform strategies calculated to contain the Azanian revolution and annihilate the true liberation movement. Extreme vigilance combined with unrelenting action is necessary to *kill* the National Convention and usher in a free, anti-racist, socialist Azania.