

South Africa's Hour Of Need

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A FRIEND in need is a friend indeed. This is our hour of need -- South Africa's hour of need. We need your support, honestly we do. Moral, spiritual and material support to the oppressed, and withdrawal of support to the oppressor moral, spiritual and material support.

OUR PRESENT REALITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA

The policies of reform and constructive engagement have both misformed our society and misinformed the world on the political dynamics of present day South Africa. Suffice it to say that today we are further away from justice, peace and order than we have ever been. The political twins of reform and constructive engagement must take full credit for these momentous achievements: 30,000 detainees, including 10,000 kids, two states of emergency, white pseudo-piety, pseudo-ignorance, pseudo-innocence and irresponsibility. The nazification, apartheidization, and balkanization of our country continues in the name of God, of civilization, of western democracy and holy capitalism. The government continues to implement their evil policies by hook and by crook: by persuasion, bribery blackmail, intimidation, and structural and physical violence. Torture and murder of detainees irrespective of age and sex. Of late, the vigilantes, the instant police (kitskonstables), the green berrets, the uniformed police and the South African Defence Force have unleashed terror and death in the streets and homes of black townships and rural areas. To add insult to

injury, Botha has called for another whites only general election on May 6. The black majority must again watch helplessly as white lunatics, idiots and racists cart votes that will determine our present and future, as they have for years determined our past. Is there any doubt anywhere anymore that we are no more than:

- part-time citizens who must fade away at election time.
- part-time husband and wives, creatures of migratory labor.
- part-time pastors, half of our lives in detention while the flock starves.
- full-time prisoners in Pollsmoor and Robben Island?
- full-time laborers with part-time wages

Truly, May 6 reminds us for the upteenth time that we are part-time beings made by a part-time god during his part-time hour in the service of a full-time devil.

We have lost our right to farm.

We have lost our right to eat.

We have lost access to water.

We have lost our right to drink.

We have lost our right to elect a government of our choice.

We have lost our right to be.

Why this, dear friends, why this, O God? Our guests have turned our house upside down, our history inside out, our rights are thrown out the window.

We found Botha in The Hague and gave him an apartment,

We found Le Grange in prison and freed him,

We found Heunis naked

and dressed him,

When they were hungry in Holland, we fed them.

How dare aliens alienate the native? How dare naturalized citizens claim monopoly to Africanhood?

CAN THE PRESENT REGIME SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS?

They are captives of their own imaginations and ideology. They belong to a superior race, with a superior color and culture. They are not willing to share power and privilege -- both acquired at the expense of the black majority. They must defend their race and system at all costs for survival they argue. Needless to say, all these fears are self-inflicted as is the case with all authoritarian, unrepresentative regimes. For more details I refer you to the Commonwealth E.P.G. Report. Botha has neither the desire nor the resolve to solve our problems. More bluntly, the racist regime has no capacity to incapacitate itself, they need encouragement -- are you willing to encourage them back to a one, undivided, democratic South Africa with a black majority government? This is the hour!

ARE YOU WILLING AMERICA? WHO ARE GATHERED HERE AND TO WHAT END?

- To collect information for the South African government which will be useful in their fight against our freedom, justice and peace?
- To get material for a master's or doctor's degree?
- To listen and get new hope?
- To listen and pray?
- To pray and act?



— To sympathize and go home saying shame, poor creatures! The problems are complex!

— To rationalize, philosophize, theologize, psychologize, spiritualize?

Why are you here? To applaud the speakers and make standing ovations? Are you willing America: To take sides with the social outcasts, the political lepers, the economic appendices and the scavengers in the hallways of hell in South Africa and Namibia? Can I depend on you? Can I rely on you in this hour of need? Or shall I turn somewhere else? Where do you stand America? On Gatsha's side, Botha's *political-twin-brother-in-disguise*? On Savimbi's side, the man who has more honour in the corridors of power in Pretoria and Cape Town's white Parliament than the average black in both South Africa and Namibia? We are suspicious America: suspicious that the white House is blinded by the whiteness of the oppressor in southern Africa and has no enthusiastic, practical concern for the oppressed because of their blackness. We think it is in your long term interest — it is in the interests of justice, peace and order that instead of exporting Stinger missiles and intelligence to the oppressors and their surrogates, you should be exporting support to progressive freedom lovers in South Africa and Namibia, and the front-line states. We expect Uncle Sam to export democracy, justice and peace. But what do we see? Are you willing America?

DO YOU WANT TO BE GREAT AMERICA? HERE IS THE CHALLENGE :

I do not call upon you to conquer space;

I do not call upon you to challenge God,

I do not ask from you the

impossible.

We call upon you Americans to:

— Carry our cry to the White House,

— Never use your veto to protect the sons and daughters of apartheid,

— Send 100,000 letters, telexes, and telegrams to Botha to protest the whites only election on May 6, the continued imprisonment and detention of black people, including kids, the muzzling of people and the press, the state of emergency.

Protest against the very existence of the regime!

Support materially and morally the victims of apartheid! Can you afford, each of you, to:

— Part with ten dollars today for e.g. Cosatu?

— Pump billions of dollars into the frontline states?

— Stop tourism to South Africa?

— Uphold and increase economic pressure, including gold? Can't you survive without South African gold tainted with black blood?

This is greatness! Working for freedom, justice and peace.

FOR US ALL, THIS IS THE HOUR OF DECISION, THE HOUR OF ACTION!

— We must work for a new order in South Africa and Namibia which is only possible with popularly elected governments.

— We must accept today that Botha has baptized his government in the name of oppression (June 12, 1986), in the name of repression (December 11, 1986) and in the name of blasphemy (April 11,

1987)

Therefore, South Africa is not the same anymore, the old has gone, the new has come, a truly police state has been born — without qualification. Now, at long last, P.W Botha has genuinely crossed the Rubicon, from pretenses at political reform to racist domination of the black masses by state terrorism and policies of repression and cooption. Americans, we want to remember you in our hour of glory — which will surely come — for your support in our hour of shame. Please join our freedom song:

How many more blacks must die?

How many more blacks must disappear?

How many more blacks must be detained?

How many more blacks must go into exile?

How many more kids must be thrown in prison? . . .

Before Uncle Sam is moved? Cry with us:

We are tired of apartheid laager beer,

We are tired of farming rocks,

We are tired of hunger and thirst,

We are tired of belonging nowhere.

Today we are citizens of here, Tomorrow we are citizens over there, Next year citizens of in-between . . . Whose are we?

Scare-crows, non-entities that we are, In perpetual motion 'til Mandela Day, The voice of Pollsmoor, the voice of UHURU South Africa shall be free Nkosi: Sikelel' Africa!

