

All whites are oppressors

Dear Editor

Revolutionary greetings to you and the readers. I would like to respond to Sakhumzi Bongco's request for more information on Comrade Barney Desai, and on the issue of settlers in my organisation, the PAC of Azania.

Comrade Barney Desai, barrister and veteran freedom fighter, was the president of the South African Coloured Peoples' Congress, a member of the Congress Alliance. In 1964 the organisation dissolved to join the PAC in exile.

On the question of whether there are any whites in the PAC, the PAC believes that all whites are oppressors as they are shareholders of South African Oppressors (Pty) Ltd. —
Xolani Makwedini, Grahamstown

Who is really a comrade?

Dear sir

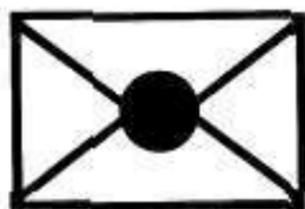
Many people have varying conceptions about the question: 'Who is a comrade?'. We have seen the security branch meeting with the Lebowa bantustan cabinet, where it was resolved that 'a comrade is someone who is not schooling, nor schooled, unemployed and frustrated'. We have seen people calling De Klerk a comrade.

Are members of Azapo and PAC comrades of those in the ANC and SACP? Who is really a comrade, and what does this mean in practice? How can we identify comrades from non-comrades?

A comrade is someone who is part of our liberation movement, who is exemplary to the people, and who is always part of them and



• Barney Desai



LETTERS

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their struggles. The leadership of the comrades is fully accountable, works on a mandate and owes allegiance to the people alone.

A comrade is someone who discards tribalist, racist, neo-fascist, imperialist, neo-colonialist and regionalist ideas. He/she is someone who struggles for a democratic, non-racial, unitary, participatory and non-sexist South Africa.

A comrade is anyone who engages the enemy in all its manifestations. He/she is always knee-deep in the trenches of battle against the apartheid regime, helping to build rudimentary organs of people's power.

A comrade is first and foremost a revolutionary — an example to his/her people in all his/her actions and activities. He/she is engaged in a revolutionary process of

transforming the society as a whole from what it is into what it is not.

A comrade must be a reflection of the good that is coming with the new society, although as comrade Albie Sachs says: 'Not everything which is old is bad and not everything which is new is good'.

We as comrades must develop an understanding of what all this means in practical, day-to-day terms.

— *Rudolph Phala, Mangangeng Village, Sekhukhuni-land*

Gulf War - Shameless hypocrisy

Dear Editor

It is a lie and naked, shameless hypocrisy for the USA and its friends (including De Klerk) to claim that the so-called 'Operation Desert Storm' was a mission for peace and democracy.

The US intervention in the Middle East was nothing but one country putting its interests above those of humanity in general, leaving death and destruction behind. Former US president Jimmy Carter revealed the USA's real intentions back in 1980, when he warned: 'Any attempt by any force to

gain control of the Persian Gulf region will be regarded as an assault on the vital interests of the USA, and such an assault will be repelled by any means necessary, including military force'.

It is also of interest to note the 1981 statement of then US president Ronald Reagan, which stated that the USA would not stand by and watch Saudi Arabia be taken over by anyone that would shut off vital oil supplies to the west.

Those countries claiming to be for peace and democracy kept quiet when the SADF invaded Angola, as Angola does not have vital oil supplies to be exploited by the west.

What the US-led forces did in the Gulf was not war, unless we want to accept that war and terrorism are synonyms.

At the beginning of March CNN news announced: 'The Iraqi government shows willingness to comply with United Nations resolutions'. If this is to be supported, then we should expect the Israeli terrorists to also obey UN resolutions, and hand over land captured from the Palestinians since 1967.

I appeal to all heads of state, as 'missionaries for peace and democracy', to pressurise (even through force of arms) the USA to:

- stop arming the terrorist state of Israel and Phillipines;
- stop its terrorism against Angola and Cuba;
- withdraw from Panama and Grenada;
- release deposed Panamanian president (and former CIA agent) Antonio Noriega, because if he is a criminal, then President Bush, who employed Noriega when he (Bush) was the director of the CIA, is an even greater criminal! —
Samuel Motlohi, Botshabelo