

The declaration of the state of emergency ~~has~~ is the mere formalisation of what already obtains. Singly, it is the greatest admission of failure by the state — an acknowledgement that this apartheid government has ~~not~~ no legitimacy.

Warrior

It is clear that this declaration is intended to provide the state with powers which it hopes could cripple the UDF — the state of arrests thus far is self-evident.

It is also clear that the shock of exposing the atrocities of police by the independent Commission of Enquiry has forced the state to into this declaration of emergency.

What all South Africans however should be clear of is that over the past few months, genuine economic grievances have made way for directly political demands and anger has made way for bitterness, the fueling of this fuelled by increasing repression. Given this — ~~at~~ we are sure that more repression is not going to change the mood of our ~~government~~ people, it will not win one iota of consent or

legitimacy for this government.

The important unanswered question on the emergency is whether by unleashing the army on the people in this manner, P W Botha is ~~not~~ saying that change in this country will only be won by the barrel of a gun.

STATEMENT ON EMERGENCY

1. Declaration of what has already obtained.
2. Prompted by the exposure of atrocities perpetrated by police → cul de sac, seeking licence to cover these evils.
3. Repression & since Vaal → transformed grievances to anger to bitterness, increased polarisation.
4. Given this → unclear as to what it seeks to achieve.
5. Legitimacy / consent.
6. Taxes

Is it saying change in rule by gun
change only by barrel of gun?