

## THE UNITY MOVEMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

### Unity Movement Members Charged Under The Terrorism Act.

14 MEN, all members of the Unity Movement of South Africa and its affiliate APDUSA (African Peoples' Democratic Union of Southern Africa), were formally remanded in custody on Wednesday June 16, 1971 in the Pietermaritzburg Magistrate's Court where they were charged on four counts under the Terrorism Act.

The men were indicted but were not asked to plead and the case was postponed to August 2, 1971 for summary trial in the Supreme Court, Pietermaritzburg. No defence counsel appeared for the accused. Their names are:

Kader HASSIM, Joseph Bransby VUSANI, Mogami Josiah MOENG, Mfolwane MBELE, Pindiso ZIMAMBANE, Dan Gideon MAHANJANA, Ncikwa Nagi VIMBA, Max Bantwini TABATA, Frank ANTHONY, Robert Cedric WILCOX, Albert Kwezi TSHANGANA, Montford Mzoli MABUTO, Joseph Tshukudu MALEKA, Surinarayan Kala VENKATRATHNAM.

The charges allege that the men participated in terrorist activities on various occasions from 1963 to 1970. According to the "Daily News" (Durban, 16/6/71)

"Count one deals with the period from April to June 1970 in South Africa and Zambia. It is alleged that the 14 men were members or active supporters of APDUSA and of the Non-European Unity Movement, also known as the Unity Movement... They endangered the maintenance of law and order in South Africa and, in furtherance of a common purpose with APDUSA and NEUM, sought to overthrow the Government by force of arms and with foreign assistance.

"It is also alleged that they conspired with I.B. Tabata, A.I. Limbada, Norman Traub, W.M. Tsotsi, Edward Ncalu, L.D. Lande, L. Nikani, Jane Gool, Blanche Tsotsi, Ernest Jama, D. Ngqeleni (These 10, excluding D. Ngqeleni, are all members of the Unity Movement leadership in exile in Zambia - Unity Movement Writer.) to receive, collect, solicit and hold funds available to finance a campaign to recruit people in South Africa to undergo political and military training and to persuade and assist people to leave the country secretly, and also to assist people to evade the police.

"Count two refers again to APDUSA and NEUM and that the accused conspired with E. Ncalu, D. Lande, L. Nikani and E. Jama to recruit people in South Africa to undergo military and political training. The offences were alleged to have been committed at Pietermaritzburg by Hassim in receiving, holding, collecting, soliciting, donating and paying out of various sums of money amounting to about R4,000 to L. Nikani, D. Lande, E. Jama and E. Ncalu.

"Various other accused are alleged to have committed similar offences at Johannesburg and include the conveyance of L. Nikani to Waterbranch compound, Johannesburg, obtaining the services of a guide for E. Ncalu and also obtaining a train ticket for him.

"Of the accused six more are alleged to have made their kraals or homes available for secret meetings at Bizana, Zeerust, Cape Town and Botswana... Some of them are also alleged to have addressed these secret meetings.

"Allegations concern also the collection and distribution of money and the receiving and forwarding of code messages from Cape Town.

**"Count three:** Eight of the accused are alleged to have incited, instigated, commanded, aided, advised, encouraged or procured at least 32 people to undergo military training which could have been of use to anybody intending to endanger the maintenance of law and order, namely, APDUSA and NEUM and the members and active supporters of these organisations.

**"Count four:** Allegations in this count refer to unlawfully harbouring, concealing, or directly or indirectly rendering assistance to people who the accused had reason to believe to be terrorists. Nine of the accused are mentioned, and the offences are alleged to have been committed last year in Johannesburg, Bizana and Cape Town. It is also alleged that four people named in the indictment were provided with board and lodging, and that they were provided with transport and an escort."

Six of the accused come from the Pondoland East area of the Transkei where, as leading members of organisations affiliated to the Unity Movement, they took a prominent part in the struggle against the Government's Resettlement Schemes, which means forcible land deprivation in order to provide more cheap labour for White South Africa's mines and industry.

In the August 1970 issue of "APDUSA", the political journal of the Unity Movement, we published a report about the large scale removal of people from their lands in this region (Lusikisiki-Bizana-Flagstaff). The police harassment and intimidation which the people were subjected to met with determined resistance and, as a result, at least 62 people were shot and killed by the police in January-February 1971. This news was reported as "tribal clashes" in the British press.

The arrest and trial of leading members of the Unity Movement, the only viable political force in the struggle against human injustice in South Africa today, is a desperate attempt to crush increasing political activity and contain the deepening ferment in the country. The vain hope of the fascist rulers is that with this fresh wave of repression they will be able to put down the mounting resistance to the tyranny of the government.

**WE MUST DEFEND** these men whose only crime is their implacable opposition to oppression and exploitation, their fight for LIBERTY.

**DEMAND THEIR RELEASE** as well as the release of ALL political prisoners in South Africa's jails!

**GIVE POLITICAL SUPPORT** and material assistance to the struggle for freedom in South Africa under the leadership of the UNITY MOVEMENT!

Please send your help to the **UNITY MOVEMENT** headquarters in exile  
P.O. Box 1850, Lusaka, Zambia  
or to the London Committee of the Unity Movement

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