LETTER TO THE EDITOR: ZOLA BUDD

Dear Sir,

The Newspapers have again given extensive news coverage to Zola Budd. The News Media has been attempting to invite sympathy and compassion for the action taken against this South African athlete from Bloemfontein who became a British subject.

It must be remembered that Zola Budd has lived and thrived on the fruits of apartheid. Hence Miss Budd has refused to denounce apartheid. Her selfish opportunism has caught up with her, and it does not warrant any sympathy or understanding from the oppressed. She is now back in South Africa. She is reported as saying that she will not run under British colours again and that her immediate plan is to enrol at the University of Orange Free State next year to study languages.

Margaret Thatcher who at all times supported Zola Budd and who recently came up with an emotional outburst in the British Parliament because of the action against Zola Budd should take note.

Ironically Zola Budd is a victim of apartheid.

"Oppressed Athlete"

Durban

BRAVE DOCTORS

The appalling conditions at the Baragwanath Hospital which caters for black people have been exposed by a band of brave and dedicated doctors who work in that Hospital. In acting as they did, these doctors were upholding the highest and noblest tradition of their profession. The doctors concerned publicly stood up in defence of their patients and criticised the Hospital Administration for allowing the shocking conditions existing in the largest hospital in Southern Africa.

Instead of commending and congratulating the doctors for their vigilance and concern, the Hospital Authorities demanded an apology from these doctors and made threats of disciplinary action against them. Under pressure, some of the doctors whose moral calibre is suspect sent in apologies. How these weaklings are going to make peace with their conscience will provide entertaining gymnastics. Others, however, stood their ground and flatly refused to apologise for speaking the truth. To these brave doctors we say: BRAVO!!

Who but an arrogant and guilty bureaucracy can make such a ludicrous demand? If there is anything worse than an arrogant bureaucracy, it is Herrenvolkist (Master racist) bureaucracy. Truth is, perhaps, our most precious gift. It must be defended.

DO YOU KNOW THAT:-

Donkeys like carrots

H.O.D. does not stand for House of Donkeys.

THE BLUNDERING EXPERT

In APDUSA VIEWS of May 1986, we warned that the mere abolition of the dompas did not mean that INFLUX CONTROL would also vanish. We said then that the ruling class would use other methods to prevent the African people from coming into the urban areas in order to seek employment and to escape the starvation in the bantustans.

We took this stand in the face of blasts of loud "hurrahs" from the press of the liberal bourgeoisie which greeted the abolition of the dompas. Professor Nic Olivier, the so-called constitutional expert of the Progressive Federal Party (PFP) praised the "non-racial provision for control of illegal squatting". What this "expert" was saying in effect was the laws against illegal squatting would no longer apply to the African people only. It would apply with equal force against the Whites, Indian and Coloured people. Hence his jubilance! The "expert", however, failed to mention one important fact that "illegal squatting" was not something the Whites, Indian and Coloured people engage in. It is only the African people, the most oppressed and exploited who have no place in the land of their forefathers and the country of their birth. It is they who driven by starvation and landlessness to occupy any vacant land from which they are not immediately driven off by the shotgun and the sjambok.

We now learn that the government intends passing a law which will render an "illegal" squatter liable to a fine of R10 000 or five years imprisonment. This is the beginning of yet another phase of great suffering for the African people. The starving person who has no home or livelihood and who has left behind a starving family will never be able to pay the fine of R10 000 not even if he is to have ten lives.

In view of the heavy penalties, people can be hardly blamed if they were to yearn for the return of the pass laws. At least with those laws, it meant jail for days or weeks.