

MEETING OF ANC, SACP, COSATU OF TRANSKEI AND THE BORDER HELD IN UMTATA

MINUTES:

PRESENT: Transkei ANC - 2 ; COSATU - 2 ; SACP - 8 ;  
Border ANC - 2 ; COSATU - none; SACP - 3

TIME : 12.00

AGENDA :

1. Political developments in Transkei and Ciskei in particular as linked to the whole S.A situation.
2. Way forward
3. Problems in the labour movement in our areas.

Meeting was chaired by cde Ezra Sigwela, the Chairperson of the ANC in Transkei. It was noted in the meeting that though the Eastern Cape was invited, Cosatu in particular apologised for not attending due to commitments (meeting in Johannesburg). We received no confirmation from ANC and SACP in the Eastern Cape.

Cde Stofile - chairperson of Border gave an outline of developments in the Border. He indicated that the situation in the Ciskei should not be seen in isolation of developments in the rest of S.A. After the unbanning of the ANC in February there were great expectations all over.

The takeover on March 4 by the military led by Gqozo opened new vistas for people of Ciskei. At the same time Gqozo was in a hurry, taking the direction of the military government in the Transkei, assisting people in organisations.

When the regime noted this, they started sending military advisers like Keith Mathee to put brakes on such developments. They then started engaging in a very subtle and dangerous propaganda campaign using our language especially in issues of local government - one town one council. They used it in their own way. Gqozo also took up this issue to the extent of organising a meeting where he tabled these issues to the ANC Border and other organisations. The ANC Border refused to accept those proposals. After this, tension mounted between ANC people and the Government.

Military advisers in Ciskei are actually insulating Gqozo from everybody and even from other members of the council. They are now working on re-incorporation of Ciskei into S.A. In this they are now intensifying strategy of making sure Bantustans are under their control. A whole range of small tribal organisations are being set up with the intention that they face the ANC at All

Party Conference with all these small organisation.  
The presence of Koevoet and Battallion 32 and the stock pile of RPG's into the Ciskei is an on ominous indicator that they want an amenable - to them - Transkei and Ciskei. Gqozo is even choosing who they are going to talk to in the ANC - that they are only prepared to talk to NEC and not local leadership.

## CONTRIBUTIONS

Cde Chris indicated the response of our forces to the situation in Ciskei was very poor as the regime is even trying to outflank us especially in rural areas.

The increasing popularity of ANC and its growth especially in the rural areas made them to panic, as, initially they thought that they were unchallenged in rural areas.

- embarked on their long time strategy of winning hearts and minds by trying to make De Klerk as going even further than Sebe and Gqozo.
- the regime, bought by their successes in Ciskei are trying to deny the ANC a stronghold. There is a multipronged offensive in all Bantustans and pressure is being mounted against Transkei and they want to challenge her on human rights, hence on release of Jamangile and others in Ciskei - they referred to Bill of rights.
- we therefore, need to work out alternatives, pay attention to reality in every area and all regions have to strategise
- the regime, through Ciskei, which has banned and slandered chiefs is now again calling on them to even join Nationalist Party - as Pik Botha reiterated support to chiefs. There was even a proposed meetig of S.A. embassy in Ciskei and chiefs on 11.03.91. There will definately be a concerted campaign to woo chiefs - practical example is Lent Maqoma of Rarabe kigdom being recalled to the cabinet.

The strategy of the regime is also not only to deprive us of political clout but also militarily.

Security considerations are dorninant in their analysis.

## 2. Way forward

- Alliance leaderships are to intensify in the area of political education especially in working class and rural areas.

- Self defence units should be given substance. We need to have a striking capacity. Each ally should form a small committee for the implementation of this in practice.
- We need to intensify our propaganda drive using media and pamphlets (in our languages) Work out immediately our answers to reincorporation over the heads of people, role of chiefs in our struggle and in future and immediate response to rising issues.
- In the area of alliances, a lot of mushrooming parties are being launched e.g. in Venda etc as the regime tries to marginalise the ANC. We need to come out against launches of tribal or regional parties. We also have to popularise the role of Contralesa and invite them to meetings of Tripartite and rallies and in such a way strengthen them. The All Party Congress is being called by the regime in order to encompass a bottomless pit of all mushrooming parties to override the ANC and its allies, also as opposed to Interim Government and Constituent Assembly.
- There should be a National Strategy on the situation on the Bantustans. National leadership to discuss bilaterally with its regional counterparts on these issues.
- There should be a meeting between Tripartite (Border and Transkei with Contralesa and invite even some of the chiefs outside Contralesa ; Cdes Stofile and the Party to organise this.
- To drive home the fact that Gqozo and his advisers should resign, as he has undermined the trust accorded him by the people. We must show out his crimes - insulting our leaders, workers and civics and surrounding himself with a cabal of criminals like Mathee and Makhuzeni. We must also launch a counter offensive indicating our refusal of the fact that salvation of the oppressed can come from the oppressor. Also contribute to Mayibuye and Umsebenzi on these issues.
- We need to conduct certain forms of mass action on campaigns like - withdrawal of SADF ; Koevoet (Bn 32).
- Remind security force of Ciskei of their past -they are not our friends.
- Not only concentrate on mass action in Ciskei but also consider consumer boycotts.
- Move away from pedantic ways of educating people but talk of issues troubling them now.

- Leadership to consider addressing people in rallies in the Ciskei/Border as before for the morale of people of Border and leadership be made aware of the situation in region consistently. In this direction a mass rally is to be held in Bisho and cdes Chris, Steve Tshwete, Stofile and Cde Ray Mhlaba to address people. Transkei, Border and E. Cape tripartites to attend and induce people in their areas to attend. Cde Harry Gwala to be invited to address also. Rally is to be held on 23rd March.
- To step up work in Ciskei Defence Force and Police and regional executives to sensitise National leadership on resources for creation of self defence units.

#### Problems in labour movement.

- the meeting decided that this issue be shelved and be discussed with the better presence of Cosatu. E. Cape region at the next meeting to be held in Umtata, St. Bedes College on 13 April, 10.00am.

#### GENERAL

Provisional agenda for the next meeting be drawn by cde Ezra Sigwela, Pongwana. A communique was prepared and adopted by the meeting. Should be given to all press agencies and structures. In a broader meeting we should consider alternative structures to the demand for resignation of Gqozo and his advisers.

These minutes should be communicated to all structures present.

Meeting closed at 16.30 AMANDLA ! ! !