



Editorial Comment

Year of greater victories

The new year, 1985 is a year of immense victories scored by our organisation, the African National Congress. Incredible achievements by a fledging army, confronted by an army with modern war-planes, battle tanks, armoured vehicles and heavy artillery weapons.

It is a triumphant year for us, who in the past year defied contingents of racist soldiers and armed police to bring down rents, busfares, and forced puppets to relinquish and abandon their fat salaries in black local authorities.

It is us, who with death defying valour foiled the racist constitutional plans. These campaigns we conducted in the presence of heavily armed racist troops, who fought tooth and nail to defend apartheid, yet, we emerged victorious.

These campaigns have enhanced our prestige the world over. On our behalf,

and in particular the religious community, Bishop Tutu was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Mrs Albertina Sisulu was awarded the Eugene Cotton award in honour of the battles we have waged against the regime, and in particular, the struggles by our women against forced removals and the murder of unarmed youth and workers.

Comrade Nelson Mandela, the first Commander of our army, Umkhonto We Sizwe, was bestowed with the 25th April Association Award, also, in honour of our resilience and determination to fight for a just, free and democratic South Africa.

These awards reflect not only the support which we enjoy from all peace loving people, but, also the prestige and seriousness with which our struggle

is taken. This is a great achievement.

Within racist circles, 'talks about talks' are not a sign of a changing enemy, but a despondent enemy, whose changing tricks reflect a desperate wish to prolong its rule against our will. This is wishful thinking within the enemy ranks and a sign of its weakness. It is our victory.

Racist accords show that the enemy is worried about us. The enemy is worried about the ANC and Umkhonto We Sizwe. The enemy is worried about our determined forward strides when it thought it would oppress us forever.

We have forced the regime to shed its racist arrogance and enter into pacts with black neighbouring countries to expel the ANC. The enemy, realising its vulnerability has forced apartheid colonial partnership with people whose colour is a curse within its own borders.

This is a sign of the enemy's wavering confidence in its own ability to defend itself against us. This is the result of the blows we have delivered through Umkhonto We Sizwe. The not too many operations by our army have convinced the ruling circles that there is no target beyond our reach.

And, at the same time, the enemy is worried about the growing popularity of our army, and its growth among us inside the country. The enemy is very much aware that the newspaper vendor, the milkman, the postman, the delivery boy, the businessman and the chauffeur that he brushes shoulders with, could be members of our army, Umkhonto We Sizwe.

Time has shown to the ruling circles, that whatever action taken against us, the revolutionary forces, we shall emerge more stronger, more skilful and more daring in our attacks. This is precisely because we are a people's organisation, just as the people can not be destroyed, the might of our organisation can never be crushed.

The massive campaigns that we

launched against the racist constitutional plans are an indication of our growing strength and the formidable power we wield in our numbers — through our unity.

We have shown that, irrespective of how many accords Botha can sign, the destiny of MK shall always be in South Africa. Its devastating blows shall always be felt by each and every racist right inside South Africa.

We have shown that whatever models of apartheid can be presented, our strength, our striking power through our unity will always crush these racist manoeuvres.

Countrymen, these achievements are a result of our efforts, our battles, the blood of our martyres. Through the blood of more than 1,000 people murdered by the regime, only last year, we found ourselves marching more closer towards our goal, a free democratic South Africa.

In consolidating these achievements, in defending these victories and strengthening the unity of our organisation, we must give the enemy no respite. We must use our accumulated strength, our organisational muscle to make further advances — in rendering ourselves ungovernable. The victories that we have scored in the past year must be defended. And, Umkhonto We Sizwe is central to the accomplishment of this task.

*Umkhonto We Sizwe must find its home right in the factories where we work.

*In the homes of the 'baas' and 'madams' where we scrub floors and wash nappies.

*In the schools and universities where the enemy aims to mislead us.

*In police stations and army barracks where the enemy hopes to use our own people to kill us.

The task facing the Spear of Isandlwana has never been so great. Lets make the year of the cadre a memoir of doom to all racist formations.