Southern Africa - the imprisoned society

"DENIGRATING WHITES"
"PORTRAYING WHITES AS INHUMAN OPPRESSORS OF BLACKS"

13 Black South African students and workers faced an 81-page charge sheet which included the above charges under the Terrorism Act in March 1975.

If found guilty, they would have been subject to sentences of a minimum of five years, maximum death.

An international campaign for their release was mounted; a number of international organisations and embassies sent observers to the trial. After months of postponement, the charges were dropped, and 2 of the defendants released. The rest returned to their cells. 9 of them are again in the courts now facing charges under the Terrorism Act, after a year at the mercy of the torturers of BOSS - the South African 'Bureau of State Security'.

The "crime" of these young blacks, and of many of the thousands of prisoners both black and white who fill South Africa's 236 jails to overflowing, is merely to oppose apartheid.

They live in a society which is the ideological successor to Hitler's Germany. Ruled by confessed Nazis, who were imprisoned by the British during the last world war, they are denied every basic human right.

Prime Minister Vorster has been accompanied on his recent well-publicised forays into black Africa and to South America by the head of his security police, Van den Bergh. If his mission is truly one of peace and detente, why does he always take this hated torturer and murdered with him?

"Detente is meaningless until the leaders of the people of South Africa are released from Robben Island and Pretoria Prison.

THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM IN SOUTH AFRICA, LED BY THE LIBERATION MOVEMENT, WILL CONTINUE UNTIL ALL THE PEOPLE ARE FREE, AND THE TRUE "TERRORISTS" ARE BEHIND BARS WHERE THEY BELONG

Join the NUS/Anti-Apartheid Movement campaign on Southern Africa.

Contact:
NUS International Department,
3 Endsleigh Street, London WC1H ODU
01-387-1277
Anti-Apartheid Movement,
89 Charlotte Street, London W1P 2DQ
01-580-5311
Karel Tip, President of the National Union of South African Students, is among an estimated 90 people who are at present being held in prisons throughout South Africa, who have been neither charged not put on trial.

They join the hundreds of political prisoners on Robben Island and in South Africa's other jails who have been sentenced to long terms for expressing their opposition to the evils of apartheid.

No reasons have been given for the detentions; these men and women, most of them members of student and youth organisations, are being held incommunicado - with no access to relatives, friends or lawyers.

Some of them, possibly 20, have been held like this for over a year.

"DETENTE"

This recent spate of political arrests in South Africa is indicative of both the increased militancy of opposition to apartheid and the Vorster regime on the part of students and young people, and the need by the racist rules of South Africa to pretend that all is well in the apartheid state, for the purposes of their international propaganda.

But this persecution of students is nothing new. Repeatedly, each newly elected official of the National Union of South African Students or the South African Student Organisation is banned. In February 1974, Abraham Tiro, a leading member of SAW, was killed in Gaberones by a parcel bomb.

NUSAS and SASO have not responded to these systematic attempts to smash them by weakening but by increasing both in strength and in the determination of their stand.

Their role in supporting the liberation struggle in Southern Africa is a difficult and courageous one.

Your support for their stand is a great source of strength and encouragement.

ACT NOW!

* SEND TELEGRAMS OF SUPPORT TO: NUSAS, 17 Jameston Street, Cape Town, South Africa

  SASO, 86 Beatrice Street, Durban, RSA.

* PROTEST TO: The Ambassador, South African Embassy, Trafalgar Square, London WC2

* Pass a motion of protest at your Union meeting; publicise the case of these students who are standing up for their basic human rights in the most cruelly oppressive country in the world; ‘adopt’ one of the prisoners and support his/her case in particular.

* JOIN IN THE CAMPAIGN ORGANISED THROUGH THE NUS/AAM STUDENT NETWORK BY CONTACTING THE ADDRESS BELOW

National Union of Students International Department, 3 Endsleigh Street, London WC1H ODU 01-387-1277

Anti-Apartheid Movement, 89 Charlotte Street, London W1P 2DQ 01-580-5311