

The acting Minister of Labour Mr. Schoeman said he is going to use his hands to strangle the trade unions. He would use a plough and place it in front of the workers and imitating it has milk but after all it has no milk. The quarrel that exists between the employer and employee are to those people. The country which is not governed in the same way as Germany but alone does not mean you must not join the trade union. We expect our demands from our employers, not from Mr. Schoeman. We can force an employer for what we want is we want to make our own laws in Parliament. The Population registration Act started with the whites and now it goes on to the Coloureds. We must.... We must allow the fact to remain that a man who is (?) is being degraded. We shall fight all these laws through our trade unions. All workers must unite and fight for their demands. If the workers are not yet united we must understand we have not gone far with our struggle. In this country only white trade unions are recognised. Our demands if we unite and leave the ministers because they do not know what we want. We have long been in the trade union and we do not see any results. If there are 100 members in the trade union, 50 are members and 50 are not members which mean that there can be no beneficial result in this great struggle. We are going to fight through various organisations but as our democratic clubs and trade unions. I think I have said enough this morning. If there is a trade union in your factor or if there is no trade union, you must do the job and organise. In America all the big trade unions were started by men in their own factories. There is only one way to freedom and if we meet rifles and other military arms along the road, go on, as we will not be the only people that rifles are being used on. We will go to gaol but go on as we will not be the only people. From today I am going to organise the Police force, they are also workers and they do not get overtime. I appeal to those police members to give me their names/.....

their names after the meeting and we shall take it straight to the Minister of Justice. There are two grades in the Police Force. There are a Policeman and a Native Policeman. Whether you are a Policeman, you are oppresses, so the best is to unite. If I am a prisoner and has to get up at 4 o'clock in the morning then the white warders also has to get up at 4 o'clock in the morning."

Who was the next speaker? -- D. Telling.

Omit this speech. Who was the next speaker? -- Nazo.

Omit what he said. Who was the next speaker? -- Stella Damons.

Is she one of the Accused? -- Yes.

Accused No. 101. Read what she said? -- "I have not much to say but all that is said about oppression you have heard. Wherever they raided, they were all together, European, Coloureds and Africans, which shows that they are the only people that is united. The majority they raided did not know what they were looking for. Before they found me in the bathroom and took all papers away and books too. A song of the Congress of the People which came out shortly after the conference, they have also taken with. Comrades there are many people who say they do not want to mix with us. If more Coloured people attend these gatherings, they will know what is going on, because they are ignorant. White masons and carpenters get their training from the Coloureds and still they must work as apprentices. Comrades, after this year, once they get the population registration ready, then the Coloured people are going to suffer. We that can open the path of our children must do so as I am oppressed with a lot of my people. Let us make a better living with our children even if it costs our lives. We are prepared to open the way for our children, even if we go to the bitter end. We are selling our labour very cheap, that is why we must realise the living standard of today. Please organise every worker, even if he is a street worker."

Who was/.....

Who was the next speaker? -- J. Fazzie.

Omit what he said. Who was the next speaker? -- Mkwai was the next speaker.

Is he one of the Accused? -- He is.

Accused No. 117. Read what he said? -- "Mr. Chairman and fellow workers. The reason why I am called is because this is a trade union. The meeting is under the auspices of S.A. Trade Union Congress. We are appealing to all to unite. We know that you are united at your residence but when you come to work then you do not know who is who. I am now appealing to the people, leader of the Congress. There is a National mistake being made by the leaders. There are those leaders who do not like trade unions, but should anybody come and tell me then I will take him to higher officers. There is a photo taken tomorrow, if the workers were united then they would not have taken photos. But they are taking a chance because they know the workers are not united. You know the Mau Mau in Kenya is caused through the capitalists who stopped the water. If you try to stop the shooting then the capitalists will say you are fighting. The Coloured people today are being discriminated. What I cannot understand is that two twin brothers, the one is darker than the other, so the one is made Coloured and the other African. This Government is up to something. If the workers are all organised we would have stopped this nonsense by the Government and there would not have been this unrest today. The white women were pressed by the white hooligans in Bloemfontein. If they speak about hooligans then they refer to the Non-Europeans. We believe the United Party is going to quit Parliament. Every today is named today as a Kafferboetie. I appeal to all workers to organise and hold the strength of the working class. Today the Government is not happy because of the Congress of the People held in Johannesburg, because they think Strijdom is going to leave his seat and Chief Luthuli is going to take it there.

There/....

There is no white seat for that, only Chief Luthuli. I am grateful to see my friend Mati who was expelled from the railway workers, but I was not expelled from a gathering. The Minister of Justice is a bad thinker. He cannot think for himself. Mr. Mati you are appointed to organise the S.A.P. and those who are here must not leave before you have given us your names. This Bantu Education was applied in Kenya but it was given to a minister. You know very well that the Government is mad and the white hooligans are always after the people and they are provoking the people."

Was he the last speaker? -- I can't remember precisely.

You hand in your notes Exhibit G. 545? -- Yes.

Did you take notes of a meeting held on the 27th November 1955? -- That is correct.

Which meeting was it? -- It was a meeting of the S.A. Coloured Peoples' Organisation.

Where was it held? -- Malatsky's Square, DurbandRoad, Korsten, Port Elizabeth.

What time did the meeting start? -- At 3 p.m.

Until when? -- Until 6 p.m.

How many persons attended the meeting? -- About 250 Native males and women and 50 Coloured males and women.

Do you know who the chairman was at the meeting? -- Simon Fisher.

Did he address the meeting? -- Yes.

Omit what he said. Who was the next speaker? -- The next speaker was an unknown Coloured.

Omit what he said, who was the next speaker? -- The next speaker was Robert Resha.

Is he one of the Accused? -- Yes.

Accused 63. Read what he said? -- Hierdie stuk.... what he said was interpreted into Afrikaans.

And do you know who the interpreter was? -- No.

Who supplied.....

Who supplied the interpreter? -- The interpreter came from the group who had gathered there.

Read what he said? -- "Woorsitter en mense van Afrika, ek is baie bly om tussen die Kleurlinge se vergadering te wees. As die Kleurlinge vergadering van 1952 was dan sou hier nie karre van die Polisie gestaan het nie, maar karre van julle. As die Goewerment die African mense verdruk dan is dit nie ver van die Kleurlinge nie, en ook nie ver van die boere wat op die plase bly nie. En wat net so lyk soos ons. Ons moet almal saamstaan Dis die Polisie wat met daardie kar na al die mense gegaan het en vir die Kleurlingmense gese het hulle moet nie na die vergadering gaan nie. Wie is die Goewerment om vandag vir die Kleurling te se hy is 'n kaffer? Hulle kom na die Kleurling toe want hulle dink hulle is aan die slaap. Die boere is vriende met ons deur julle Kleurlinge. As julle Kleurlinge hulle weggoi dan is ons Africans daar. Ons gaan na die verlossing toe. As julle vandag bfuinmense is dan is dit nie nodig dat die Goewerment vir julle se wat is julle. In die fabriek gaan hulle julle geld vat en vir die hongersnood boere geen, dit is die boere se goewerment. Moet ons die boere gaan vat en die boere doodskiet, moet ons messe vat en die boere doodsteek, moet ons die boere in die see jaag, is dit die goed wat ons moet doen? Die vrae wat ek nou gevra het sal 'n man nog vir homself moet antwoord. Ek se nie dat julle moet enige ding doen nie. Ek wil nog vir julle bid sodat julle kan niks raakvoel nie eendag. Julle moet sterk wees want die tyd is naby, die pad wat na die "freedom" toe gaan is nie maklik nie. Deur die waarheid word ons leiers se bekke toegemaak. So julle gaan ook nog toegemaak word. Die pad is nie lekker nie, die pad is hartseer. Die boere het lekker vandag. Toe ek hier gekom het was ek gevang omdat ek nie 'n permit het nie. Ek het nie vir Boast gese nie, dat ek hom nie - die boere se dag is baie naby. Erasmus het nou van Amerika afgekom waar hy gaan vra het vir roere en dit word nou reggemaak vir julle Kleurlinge, Africans en Indiers.

en vir die wittes wat waarheid praat. As ons regtig meen dan kan ons niks maak nie, hulle kan maar met die roere kom, die roere gaan nie hier werk nie. Wat as Mkwayi dit vandag het, dan het ek dit more, so die roere gaan nie hier werk nie. Die boere wil graag ons dogters he. Om te wys hoe vuil die boere is, wie kan se waar julle Kleurlinge vandag af kom? "

Omit the rest of his address. Who was the next speaker?
-- Simon Makalipi.

Is he one of the Accused? -- Yes.

Accused 116. Omit his speech. You hand your notes in Exhibit G. 546? -- Yes.

THE COURT ADJOURNS TO 16.5.57.

16th May, 1957.

ON RESUMING:

BY MR. COAKER: May it please your Worship. The position with regard to persons who are absent through sickness - it shows several changes today. Perhaps I ought to give your Worship the whole list again today. The following persons who were absent yesterday are still absent, No. 19, 55, 93, 101, 105, 118, 132, and 145. In regard to those I wish to hand in a further certificate relating to No. 93, George Peake. The following persons are back in Court today, No. 73, No. 83, No. 89. There are three new casualties, No. 35, July Mashaba in respect of whom I beg leave to hand in a certificate. No. 146, and No. 149 in respect of whom I will hand in the certificates as soon as they become available. There are also three persons who have not yet reached the Court owing to a breakdown in the transport system from Sophiatown, they have telephoned the Court, they are No. 63, No. 77 and No. 106. I will inform the Court when they arrive and I ask that that matter should stand over until then.

BY THE P.P.: The medical certificates are in order, Your Worship. These three persons who are late, are only from Sophiatown and I believe the buses are now running again, there was some trouble about the buses.

THE CROWN PROCEEDS:

(MR. GRESSE interpreting from Afrikaans into English and from English into Afrikaans).

CHRISTIAAN NATHANIEL FRITZ: b.v.

VERHOOR DEUR DIE P.A.: Het jy notas gemaak in verband met 'n vergadering gehou op die 24ste Julie 1956? -- Dis reg.

Was dit 'n vergadering van die South African Coloured Peoples' Organisation? -- Dis reg.

Waar was dit gehou? -- Dit was gehou in die Jarman Saal, Highfieldweg, Schauder Township, Port Elizabeth.

Hoe laat/....

Hoe laat het die vergadering begin? -- 7.50 nm.

Tot hoelaat? -- Tot 9 uur nm.

Hoeveel persone was daar teenwoordig? -- Daar was ongeveer 40 Kleurlingmans en vrouens en een Naturelleman.

Wie was die voorsitter van die vergadering, weet jy? -- Die Voorsitter was Stephen Tobias.

Nou, laat uit wat hy gese het. Wie was die volgende spreker? -- W. Mkwayi.

Is hy een van die Beskuldigdes? -- Ja, Beskuldigde nr. 117.

Lees wat hy gese het? -- "I am not good in English, but as I am amongst Coloureds tonight I am a Coloured, therefore I am going to speak to you in English. Many women are preparing to go and see Mr. Strijdom, the Prime Minister, to protest against the Reference books. They are all going to see Mr. Strijdom. When you look at the reference books it means something for slaves, because every month your employer has got to sign it and if you go to Kimberley and your reference book is not signed then you will have to come back, because nobody will employ you there. We must look properly at the reference books because it does not mean that it will be for the Africans alone. It is going further to the Coloureds. What is this Nationalist Government doing, they are making all of us slaves, it is the duty of every woman to be at Pretoria on the 9th of August. It must not be a small affair, the women must show they do not want the reference books. The reference books are creating slaves. When the farmers conference was here in Port Elizabeth, they want the Power to have more slaves, it is now up to us to be fast asleep there is an old saying which goes like this, Prevention is better than cure. That is all I wanted to say."

Wie was die volgende spreker? -- S. Tobias, die voorsitter.

Lees wat hy gese het? -- "Ons almal moet uitgaan om te

arbei/.....

arbei, daar is baie om te doen. Ek wil nou 'n paar dinge bekend maak van die "FREEDOM CHARTER". Ons almal sal reg behandel word by die Wet, as ek iets gedoen het en ek word gevang dan moet ek dieselfde straf kry as wat 'n witman sal kry "There shall be houses for security." Kyk hoe bly die familie hier in Shauderwoonbuurt vandag. Drie families word in een huis gesit en as ons in die Witmense se plekke gaan kyk, dat daar 'n familie van 2 in 'n groot huis bly". "The People shall share the countries wealth". Kyk hoe lyk ons vandag. "There shall be peace and friendship," daar is witmense wat vandag se hulle wil niks met 'n Kaffer of Hotnot te doen he nie. "All people shall have equal rights". Kyk nou as 'n African nie 'n stukkie papier het van sy baas agter 9 uur in die aand nie, dan word hy gevang en hy gaan tronk toe, die man gaan vroeg in die oggend weg van sy huis af en dan moet hy nog gevang word agter 9 uur. Sy vrou sit en wag vir hom by sy huis om te kom eet. Waar kom daardie Wet vandaan?"

Wie was die volgende spreker? -- Stella Damons.

Is sy een van die Beskuldigdes? -- Ja, Beskuldigde 101.

Lees wat sy gese het? -- "Ons wil nie graag die vergadering ophou nie, maar die werk wat ons nou mee besig is, is dat al die moeders, en die wat nie hulle kinders wil laat swaarkry nie, gaan almal om die Prime Minister te gaan sien. Ons gaan niks reg kry nie as ons stil sit, daarom vra ek julle almal wat vanaand hier is om na die huise te gaan en gaan organiseer in elke huis moet daar 'n Freedom Charter wees, dan sal ons weet wat om te doen. Dit sal nie meer lank wees nie, dan sal julle weet ons doen dit. Daar was nou die ander dag 'n klomp mense by die "Native Commissioner' nie alleenlik vrouens nie, maar manne ook. Die polisie en baie ander mense was daar. Julle weet daar was baie mense wat geklas was, die wat verloor het, het verloor, en die wat gewen het het gewen. Daar is baie wat nog bang is vir S.A.C.P.O. en ons moet almal se hande mekaar vat. Daar is baie jong seuns in die strate wat sit en kwaad doen want hulle leef in 'poverty'.

As die vrouens se hulle gaan 'n ding doen dan doen hulle dit, so op daardie dag wanneer hulle na die "Prime Minister" gaan dan moet die mans en seuns maar na die potte by die huis kyk."

Wie was die volgende spreker? -- Stephen Tobias.

Die Voorsitter? -- Dis reg.

Laat uit wat hy gese het. Wie was die volgende spreker?
-- C. Jasson.

Is sy een van die Beskuldigdes? -- Ja. Nr. 105.

Lees wat sy gese het? -- "Ons kom nie hier om vir julle te se hoe swaar julle kry nie, die vrouens het 'n paar jaar terug vir julle vasgetrep aan die pilare van die Parlementsgeboue in Engeland. Een van die vrouens van die goewerment in Engeland het selfs tronk toe gegaan. Ek was opgesluit vir omtrent 25 uur, en as ek nog langer opgesluit was, dan sal ek beter gevoel het, want dit was vir my vryheid. Die mans is baie bang, daar is nog baie wat bang is en daarom sal ons vrouens nou vorentoe gaan. "Hulle sit en skryf en vat notas, maar hulle weet nie hulle 'sign' hulle eie 'death warrants' nie. Hoekom moet ons nog bang wees, wanneer ons baie Africans, Indians en baie witmense het, wat saam met ons staan? "

Wie was die volgende spreker? -- L. Diedericks.

Laat uit wat hy gese het. Wie was die volgende spreker?
-- M. Williams.

Laat uit wat hy gese het. Wie was die volgende spreker?
-- H. Manuel.

Lees wat hy gese het? -- "Comrades ek is jammer dat ons so min is vanaand in die naam van S.A.C.P.O. Die A.P.O. is nou dood en die nuwe organisasie is die S.A.C.P.O. As ons nie eenheid is nie dan kan ons niks doen nie, soos julle alreeds gehoor het van die Freedom Charter. Dit meen eenheid, julle moet nie reken dat ons kerke"

Laat die res van sy toespraak uit. Wie was die volgende spreker? -- Die voorsitter S. Tobias.

Laat uit wat hy gese het. Was dit die laaste spreker? --

Dis reg.

Jy handig nou notas in? Bewysstuk G.547? -- Dis reg.

Jy handig ook in 'n pamflet wat die vergadering van "Let The People Speak" aankondig, as Bewysstuk G.548? -- Dis reg.

En die vergadering was gehou op watter datum? -- Die vergadering was gehou op Saterdag 16 Januarie 1954 om 2.30 nm.

Deur wie is die pamflet uitgegee? -- Ek het die pamflet by 'n onbekende Naturel gekry.

At the bottom of the pamflet, "Issued by 'Let the People Speak Committee', 27 Atwell Street, Korsten". Evidence of this meeting has already been given. Segonie gave this evidence.

BY THE P.P.: NO FURTHER QUESTIONS.

XXD. BY MR. COAKER: Are you attached to the Special Branch? -- I am.

How long have you been attached to it? -- Ongeveer 5 jaar.

Have you been to a great number of these meetings? -- That is correct.

You made all your notes in longhand? -- That is correct.

During this period of about 5 years, in view of the fact that you have been to a number of meetings, I take it that you could not remember anything apart from what you have referred to in your notes? -- That is correct.

You can't remember whether at any particular meeting a speaker used Afrikaans, English or any Non-European languages? -- Apart from what appears from your notes? -- That is correct.

You can't remember whether at any particular meeting, interpreters were used or not? -- I cannot.

You will agree with me that when you are making notes in longhand, it is quite impossible to take down everything that a speaker says? -- Precisely.

And furthermore, because you cannot take down the whole

out? -- All my sentences are complete.

Do you make any punctuation marks in your notes to indicate the end of a sentence and the beginning of another one? -- No.

You can't tell now, apart from the sense of the sentence, where one sentence ends and the next one begins? -- Soos ek alreeds gese het, ek kan uitmaak waar my sin voltooi is.

That is from the sense of the words that you read? -- That is correct.

Not from any marks that you have made in your notes? -- No.

Nevertheless the sentences that you write down may or may not be complete, but they must necessarily be lifted from other sentences because you cannot take down the whole of what the speaker says? -- As I have said, I tried to take down every sentence to the best of my ability and complete it.

But you agree with me that you don't in fact manage to take down the whole of what he says? -- That is correct.

What languages do you speak? -- Afrikaans.

English is not your home language? -- No.

You don't regard yourself as an expert in the English language? -- That is correct.

And do I understand then that you do not understand any Native language? -- That is correct.

What is your system with regard to making notes if a speech is made in one of the African languages? -- Ek neem dit nie af nie want ek verstaan dit nie.

BY THE COURT: Is it never interpreted into English or Afrikaans? -- When it is interpreted into English or Afrikaans then I do take it down.

BY MR. COAKER: And when it is interpreted into English, do you necessarily take it down in English or do you take it down in Afrikaans? -- If it is interpreted into English, I take it down in English./..

in English.

BY MR. COAKER: NO FURTHER QUESTIONS.

BY MR. SLOVO: NO QUESTIONS.

RE-EX. BY THE P.P.: Verstaan jy Engels, kan jy dit praat? --
Ja.

Op die vergaderings van die South African Coloureds Peoples' Organisation, watter taal word daar meeste gepraat? -- Afrikaans.

Kan jy onthou, Stella Damons, Beskuldigde 101, watter taal sy sal praat? -- In meeste gevalle praat sy Afrikaans want die mense wat sy adresseer verstaan nie Engels so goed nie.

BY THE COURT: Do you mean by that that she sometimes speaks English? -- Sometimes, yes.

DEUR DIE P.A.: En C. Jasson, Beskuldigde 105, watter taal praat sy gewoonlik? -- Ook altyd in Afrikaans.

DEUR DIE P.A.: GEEN VERDERE VRAE.

BY THE P.P.: The number of that Exhibit relating to the meeting of the 16th January 1954, is G.504.

D.K. JANUARY: Interpreting from Xosa into English and vice versa.

ATWELL GAZO: s.s.

XD. BY THE P.P.: You are a Native Sergeant S.A.P. stationed at Port Elizabeth? -- That is correct.

Did you make notes at a meeting held on the 17th of April, 1955? -- That is correct.

And you have your notes now before you? -- That is so.

Was it a meeting of the African National Congress? -- It was.

Where was it held? -- Desai's Private Ground, Korsten.

What time did the meeting commence? -- 3 p.m.

Until when? -- 5 p.m.

How many persons attended the meeting? -- 130.

Who was/.....

Who was the Chairman? -- J. Jack.

Is he one of the Accused? -- That is so, Accused 104.

Will you read what he said? -- "The meeting under the auspices of the A.N.C. is now opened. God made the fruits of Eden but today only the minority are enjoying the fat of the land. Eight million people are being ruled by two million, if we were to do this to the Europeans, what would they say? Where there are capitalists, there is oppression, it is our intention to free all the people from oppression. Europeans alike, if war should break out tomorrow, Strijdom, Churchill and Eden will not take part. The Congress of the People will be held in June where people of different races will meet to challenge the Government of this country. This will be the first meeting of its kind, this meeting will be held in Johannesburg, on that^{date}/we are going to take over the Government."

Who was the next speaker? -- The next speaker was W. Tyalana.

Will you ommit what he said, don't read it. Who was the next speaker? -- Mkwayi.

Is he one of the Accused? -- One of the Accused.

That is Accused No. 117. Read what he said? -- In 1952 men demanded the introduction of the pass here in Port Elizabeth. "There were no women." The volunteers are acting like the Government soldiers, they want to be paid; they should realise that they are the volunteers. On the 25th-26th a Congress of the People Meeting will be held. You will notice that there are not so many people in this meeting, but one thing you must do 'start a fire' they will all get burnt and follow you. Strijdom who used to speak a lot is now quiet. The school committees are only wanted by well-to-do people as they are the tool of the Government. There is nothing we expect from these well-educated people. There "are" Mau Mau in Kenya because people were denied education. It is said that people are going to be moved from Korsten. The freedom volunteers should force their way even/...

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