

FREEDOM IS A STRANGE FEELING

Says HENRI ALLEG, Algerian resistance hero whose book on the tortures to which he and others had been subjected first showed the world that the French colonialists were using in Algeria the same methods as the Nazis. Alleg recently escaped from a French jail after five years imprisonment and is now in Czechoslovakia.



Henri Alleg

NOW that I am free there is an odd feeling that I cannot shake off.

It is the strangeness, after years in prison, of being able to walk freely in the streets, of being able to open a window and finding that no iron bars obstruct the view.

Now my heart does not shrink every time I meet a policeman; now I can smile at him, knowing he is a friend.

I often think of the prison where I left so many friends. Particularly do I remember the hard times in the De Barberousse Prison in Algiers.

In a few days' time it will be two years since we began a hunger strike which was to have lasted 12 days.

My prison mates and I were just above the death cell in which there were 120 prisoners at that time.

We staged the hunger strike to obtain some improvement in the terrible conditions which prevailed in that and all other Algerian prisons.

The French colonialists refused to consider us as political prisoners. Our people were often treated worse than the common criminals who enjoyed advantages we were denied.

We didn't have beds, bedclothes or tables. We ate from rusty pots on the floor.

The Guards

The prison guards beat the prisoners with keys, fists and constantly insulted them. On the slightest pretext prisoners got two or three months' solitary confinement.

Each morning death awaited two or three Algerian prisoners. At night we waited in vain to sleep. Sometimes sleep would not

Bechuanaland Bans Sunday Meetings

PALAPYE

"Khama's law for the Bamangwato and the tribal law which is observed throughout the tribal territories does not allow public as opposed to private meetings to be held on Sundays," states a letter from the Government Secretary to Mr. M. K. Mpho, Secretary of the Bechuanaland People's Party.

Drinking and sports activities are regarded as social events of a private nature and not public meetings and are therefore excluded from the ban, states the letter, which adds that the Government does not want to interfere in this matter "particularly as in this case it would seem that the attitude of the Tribal Authorities has the support of a considerable weight of public opinion in this rural conservative area."

The B.P.P. feels that this ban is a deliberate tactic to prevent the development of opposition political parties in Bechuanaland.

"If the Government want to test the feeling of the people on this matter, let them put it to the people," Mr. Mpho told New Age. "It is because the public support us that they attend our Sunday meetings in their hundreds, and this is what the Government fears."

come, and when it did we hoped that we would not wake up in the morning to see another of our friends die.

Nor did those sentenced to death sleep. They remained awake so that they would not be surprised by the sudden arrival of the guards and the police who would drag them to the guillotine hardly awake.

They wanted to die fully awake and alert so that they could shout their confidence in the victory of their country. Or if others were to die we wanted to hearten them with our songs.

We lived under such conditions in 1957 and 1958. Thanks to the actions organised by the prisoners and our hunger strikes, thanks also to international solidarity and, above all, the struggle of the Algerian people, things changed.

There were some improvements, but no sooner were they won than the French administration put an end to them and our problems

started all over again.

This is why hunger-strikes were held so often. A recent one lasted until the Algerian prisoners forced the French administration to concede to their demands and grant them the status of political prisoners.

This was a big victory for the prisoners who had been demanding this for years.

Patriots

Their determination and their heroism have won the admiration of the whole world. Yet it is still necessary to say that the conditions of the concentration camps in which patriots are held, are reminiscent of those of Nazi prisons.

The Algerian people as a whole have suffered terribly during the seven years of war. More than a million of their sons have been murdered by the French colonialists.

Thousands of Algerian men and

Lutuli's Portrait At Tanganyika Celebrations

One of the sights at the recent Tanganyika Independence celebrations at Dar Es Salaam was a huge picture of South Africa's Chief Lutuli displayed alongside the new Tanganyikan flag, writes New Age reporter James Hadebe in a dispatch received this week.

AT THE STATE BALL



The Duke of Edinburgh dances with Miss Lucy Lameck, member of the National Assembly, during the recent independence celebrations in Tanganyika.

Many of the visitors from all over the world remarked on the stupidity of the Nationalist government in refusing Chief Lutuli permission to attend the celebrations, Mr. Hadebe adds.

Other highlights of the celebrations were:—

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The unveiling of the Independence monument, a stone obelisk 33 ft. high and surmounted by a torch. At its base is the inscription "Uhuru na Umoja" (Freedom and Unity), which is also the new inscription on the Tanganyika coat of arms.

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The lowering of the British flag to the cheering of some 80,000 citizens, and the raising of the new green, black and gold Tanganyikan flag to the accompaniment of the Mungu ibariki Afrika (Nkosi Sikelela i Afrika in Swahili) the Tanganyikan national anthem. The Governor Sir Richard Turnbull and the Prime Minister Mr. Julius Nyerere stood close by the flag-post throughout the ceremony and looked coldly at each other for a few moments. Those were the most thought-provoking and deep moments of this particular occasion.

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After the adjournment of the Parliament of the first independent Tanganyikan Government, which will reassemble on February 13, 1962, the Prime Minister and the Minister of Education, Mr. Oscar Kambona, and other ministers and members of the House, went round greeting the thousands of supporters gathered outside the House of Assembly shouting "Uhuru na Umoja". The crowds responded

British Guiana

Jagan Wants Independence By May 31

Dr. Cheddi Jagan, Prime Minister of British Guiana, and a guest at the Tanganyikan Independence Celebrations, told a press-conference in Dar es Salaam that he was meeting Mr. Maudling, the Colonial Secretary, to demand the fixing of his country's independence date. The main opposition party had asked for independence on May 31, 1962, and he was in full agreement.

Asked if British Guiana would become a member of the Commonwealth, he said that his country was committed to do so, if the Commonwealth was still there. With regard to relations with South Africa, Dr. Jagan said that Guianian trade with South Africa had been suspended since 1960. Legislation had been enacted at the beginning of this year to bar trade with the Republic.

He told another questioner that his country would either be called New Guiana or Eldorado. He stated that he was a Socialist and would maintain friendly relations with Cuba and other West Indian territories.

His Government was not at this stage considering the nationalisation of anything but he stated that colonial looting was responsible for the prosperity of Britain and other metropolitan countries. In international relations a policy of non-alignment would be followed by his country.

spiritedly and with much enthusiasm.

A procession of thirty floats toured the newly pronounced City of Dar Es Salaam. The first and second prizes for the best floats were awarded to those which carried the South African refugee-fighters. They received silver trophies.

At a press conference attended by about 150 members of the overseas press the Duke of Edinburgh chatted for several minutes to the New Age representative about South African affairs and asked about Chief Lutuli and his policies.

Mr. Nyerere, the Prime Minister, received the gifts to Tanganyika from various governments at his official residence. These included £20,000 from Nigeria "to spend as he deemed fit", £34 million from West Germany, 10 million dollars from the U.S.A., 100 scholarships for various courses from Israel, and scholarships from Australia.

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There was a colourful youth display at the National Stadium attended by the Prime Minister, foreign guests and local citizens. The youth of all races vigorously took part, very impressively showing pride and awareness of their role in the new Tanganyika.

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The celebrations went off smoothly, too smoothly in fact, for there was a lot of the very stiff, formal and British conservative atmosphere. The city was pleasantly decorated, and the weather good throughout.

Tanganyika has gained independence. All that remains is KAZI—as the Tanganyika African National Union slogan says—Uhuru na Kazi—FREEDOM AND WORK. There is every indication that that struggle too will be won as peacefully as the colonial one, given the time.

LET'S SORT OUT THE RUGBY SCRUM

DR. DANIE CRAVEN and his all-white Rugby Board are a worried lot. **THE BRITISH LIONS TOUR DUE NEXT YEAR MAY BE CALLED OFF.**

The South African Sports Association has already written to the International Rugby Board and its members and a strong letter by Alan Paton in the London Times has made things hotter.

So worried are our white rugby-bosses that they have begun talks with the non-white rugby players and have stated that they are willing to arrange a game for a COLOURED Fifteen.

We shall have to watch this.

No Coloured group should accept this racialism. Nor should they make a deal without considering our many African rugby players.

The whites have a strong argument they are preparing to use against us. It is strong because it is true: There is at present no body which represents all ruggerites who stand for non-racial rugby.

This is true. And it has been

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SCOREBOARD

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true for a long time. FAR TOO LONG.

Stalling

There has been stalling from the coloured Board with its HQ in Kimberley—for which Kester, Abass and Co. must take the blame because many of their affiliates are genuinely against racialism—e.g. Eastern Province and Border.

But there has also been stalling in the "African" Rugby Board—and this will continue unless President Louis Mtshizana uses a strong hand on some of his co-officials who have been dragging their feet and are themselves racialists.

This matter must be sorted out soon. Certainly before the Lions arrive.

Previous attempts at conferences have achieved nothing. But something must be done. If there are no real efforts for a meeting, SASA will have to call the bodies concerned to a Conference at P.E. during Easter.

Perhaps then we can field a really strong team in our fight for non-racial rugby.

THREE MORE BOMB BLASTS IN P.E.

(Continued from page 1)
blast, which was heard for a distance around, hundreds of men at the Zakele single men's quarters came out and were shouting expressions of joy at what had happened.

A little later the same evening the Special Branch again raided homes in the townships, some of which had been raided the previous week. On this occasion a number of other people in town were also raided, including Coloured teachers and Indian traders.

NEW UNIT

A special Branch unit has been formed at Uitenhage. Up to now all political investigations at Uitenhage have been done by the ordinary CID. This new move appears to be in anticipation of some trouble to come. The new Special Branch has already undertaken a number of raids in the location. Amongst those raided were: Vuyisile Tole, Tom Charlieman, Temba Paulos, Mrs. Mbanjwa and Miss Manyandela. Materials confiscated included the recently issued badges of Chief Lutuli.

At the location administration office the staff, headman and white employees maintained a day and night guard over the Christmas weekend.

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ANOTHER JO'BURG REMOVAL



Another exodus to Johannesburg's south-western complex—residents of the oldest African township, Western Native Township, are seen on their way to new homes in Moroka.

Arrested by Salazar's Secret Police

2 MEN DISAPPEAR IN MOZAMBIQUE

JOHANNESBURG.
TWO men who were arrested in Lourenco Marques at the end of August last year for voicing their opposition to the despotic rule of the Portuguese regime have completely disappeared.

All efforts by their families to trace them have failed. They have never appeared in Court.

Mr. Hafaje Karim was arrested on August 28. His family have been to every police station and Court session in Lourenco Marques since then in their attempt to see him, but in vain. The police deny all knowledge of the case.

A few days after Mr. Karim's arrest a friend of his, Mr. Carverinho, was also taken. Mr. Carverinho is a married man with two children. His wife is desperate—she has no idea where he has been taken.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THESE MEN?

Habeas Corpus, which applies in other countries and by which any arrested man or woman must be brought before a court of law within forty-eight hours of arrest, does not apply in countries under Portuguese fascist rule. There are prisons and detention camps dotted all over Mozambique containing hundreds of men, and it is impossible to find out how many of them have ever been formally charged.

The resistance of all those suffering under the Portuguese yoke in Africa, and who may receive treatment like this, or even worse, in the course of their struggle, has been strengthened by the armed fight that is going on in Angola, the Portuguese colony on the West African coast. In Mozambique itself the MDM (Mozambique Democratic Movement) is busy organising against

SASA REJECTS BAN ON BRUTUS

PORT ELIZABETH.

The South African Sports Association has unanimously agreed not to accept the offer of the Honorary Secretary, Mr. D. Brutus, to resign.

The matter was referred to the affiliated and supporting bodies for a decision after the Secretary had offered to resign following an order from the Minister of Justice banning him from all gatherings for a period of five years.

Mr. Brutus has been asked to carry on until his term of office expires in 1963.

the hated Salazar regime, and recently these various movements united (NEW AGE December 21) to form the Nationalist Organisations of the Portuguese Colonies,

with Marcelino do Santos as General Secretary.

With the overthrow of the Portuguese dictatorship in Goa, Damon and Diu in India, and the mobilisation of world opinion against the dying Salazar system, it will not be long before the people of Mozambique too are free.

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Published by Real Printing and Publishing Co. (Pty.) Ltd., 6 Barrack Street, Cape Town and printed by Pioneer Press (Pty) Ltd., Shelley Road, Salt River. This newspaper is a member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations. New Age offices: Johannesburg: 7 Mercantile House, 155 President Street, Phone 22-4625. Cape Town: Room 20, 6 Barrack St., Phone 2-3787, Telegraphic Address: Nuage, C.T. Durban: 602 Lodson House, 118 Grey Street, Phone 68887. Port Elizabeth: 20 Court Chambers, 129 Adderley Street, Phone 46796.

Collection Number: AG2887

Collection Name: Publications, New Age, 1954-1962

PUBLISHER:

Publisher: Historical Papers Research Archive, University of the Witwatersrand

Location: Johannesburg

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