

NEIL AGGETT—Lived for his country

Died In Detention

The aim of the security laws in South Africa (and the so-called homelands) is quite simple: to stamp out opposition to the government. The government bans people, banishes them to far-away places, detains them without trial and charges them with 'terrorist activities and subversion'. These are the ways in which the government can silence people and their organisations.

More than fifty people have died in detention. Many are banned. Many people are on the Island. These are people who have raised their voices against oppression and exploitation.

Since 1960, many laws have been made like the Terrorism Act. These laws threaten people with long jail sentences for 'terrorism and subversion'. Laws have been made so that people can be detained for long periods without even going to court.

In 1982 Neil Aggett died in detention. Ernest Dipale also died in detention. The inquest (investigation by the government) into Aggett's death went on for a long time. The verdict was given in December.

The Magistrate found that nobody was to blame for his death. The inquest did raise questions about the treatment of detainees and many of Aggett's friends were called to give evidence.

These detainees spoke about the change in Aggett's condition and health a few days before he was found dead.

One person said Aggett seemed to have had a hard time, 'he was staring blankly at the wall', and seemed to have a mark on his forehead. Another detainee said he seemed 'morose and very depressed. He was not the Neil Aggett I knew from before.'

The Aggett inquest has told us one story, but the people called as witnesses told us another story. Torture, lack of sleep, solitary confinement, no contact with family and friends, assaults. We will never know what really happened, but the fact remains - people who are detained are in the hands of the police, who are the tools of the government. We have only Aggett's actions as a trade unionist and a doctor to believe in. A man who put others before

himself and struggled to improve the lives of the workers.

In a statement, the African Food and Canning Workers Union said, "on February 5 we mourn for our comrade who had died in the struggle to change the conditions under which



working people live in South Africa. We remember also that in this struggle there have been many casualties and there will be many casualties in the future".

Intetho Yezilwanyana

1 Sleepy Town yaye iyindawo ezolileyo.

Nu izilwanyana na zazingakhe
zithethisane kunjalo nje zazisele
zilibeke nokuba amazwi azo
asayenziswa njani na lxesha elininzi
zazihlala endlwini zisloko zilele.

Into ubuyakusuka uyive sisandi

somoya sh-sh-sh

odyakalashé balala sh-sh-sh

amaquqa alala sh-sh-sh

unkawu zalala sh-sh-sh

umimwundla yayilele sh-sh-sh

iintaka zalala sh-sh-sh

inyenzane zalala sh-sh-sh

Kuthe kunjalo zeva izilwanyana

ngengxolokazi STOMP-STOMP-STOMP!

yaye isondela lengxolo

STOMP-STOMP-STOMP!

Kwada kwang-cangcazela nomhalaba

Tyhini! Kuthe kanti ngu Masitandi

wezizindlu abo babehlala kuzo

wesuka wema wajonga zonke izindlu zakhe-

Wavakala esithi yedwa "Ndizaku

yonyusa irente!"

STOMP-STOMP-STOMP!

"Ukuze ndizithengele ezinyeizihlanu!

Phofu ke ndinazo ezinye eziyi 37,

kodwa bendingathanda ezinye!"

Emva kwayo lengxolo zabuya zalala

izilwanyana ngaphandle incanda

encinane yashukumisa enzotsiba

zayo yakhala, "Asinamali yaneleyo

vokuhlawula irente."

Megaqa lavuka lathi, "Lonto ithethi

ukuthi asizikuba nandawo yakuhlala"

umwundla nazo zonke ezinye ezilwanyana

zavuka zathetha ngezwi elinye zenza

ingxolo enkulu zaghumelela nezozingqi

zika Masitandi. Wathi wakubona wovika

aMasitandi wabeleka wemka.



Albany non-racial sport kicks off again

There will be a meeting on March 16 at the Recreation Hall to start the Albany Non-racial Sports Board up again.

The Sports Board was formed a few years ago. It was to be an organization for all different sports which play in the non-racial leagues.

The Grahamstown Football Association, the Netball Association, the South Eastern Districts Rugby Union, the Tennis Board

and Marywaters were all members. It is hoped that other schools will also join.

The Sports Board aims to establish contact between the different sports bodies and organize meetings between them.

The Sports Board also aims to educate people. It wants to explain the policies of non-racial sport to the people of Grahamstown.

The Sports Board thinks it is important that other countries are shown that sport in South Africa is not normal, and it is not integrated.

There must be a strong non-racial movement to resist the official sport policy if the struggle for non-racial sport is to be won.



West Indian cricket tour

Millions spent on tours while people starve

The government says that there is no more apartheid in sport. The government tries to make people believe this by paying people lots of money to come and play sport in South Africa. But how can there be non-racial sport while there is still apartheid? We can see that there cannot be. Johannes is a young sports person from New Town. He goes to school and after school he has to work to support his brothers and sisters. He wants to play cricket, but he cannot afford to buy the equipment he needs. The only fields he can use are those next to Follies Stadium, and they are very bad. Charles is a boy who goes to Kingswood College

When he comes home from school, lunch is served to him. After lunch he changes into his new tracksuit, takes his bat and goes to one of the five fields. Kingswood College can pay a lot of money so that they have good cricket players. The people of South Africa do not even have enough money to buy food for themselves and their children.

People all over the world have condemned the cricket team for playing sport in a racist country because of their own greed for money.

While exploitation and inequality exist there can be no normal sport.

Why should the government pay so much to the cricket coaches?

When Charles plays, he has all the good equipment and a good trainer. He also becomes good.

South Africa now wants to play international cricket. They say they choose the best team, regardless of colour. But it is clear that Charles will be chosen and not Johannes.

The government gives money to the racial cricket union, that spends millions of rands bringing out the West Indian cricket side.

But millions of people live in poverty and are forced to exist from their meagre wages, while the West Indian cricket team each receive over R100 000 for playing cricket in South Africa.

Because so much money is being wasted while the people are struggling to pay their rent and their houses are falling apart, many people boycott racist tours.

The people reject these tours and should also not go and watch Rhodes and the schools play sport until Johannes has the same opportunity as Charles.



Collection Number: AK2117

DELMAS TREASON TRIAL 1985 - 1989

PUBLISHER:

Publisher: **Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand**

Location: **Johannesburg**

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