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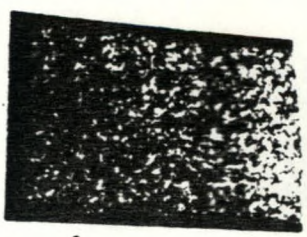
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REPORT ON THE N.C. REGIONAL WORKSHOP

ASSEMBLY HOTEL: KIMBERLEY

DATED: 21/10/1984

STARTED: 10h30 m



At least 60 people representing organisations from the region, plus observers, had attended a workshop organized to evaluate campaigns in the region, have an overview of the South African situation and come up with alternative structure for the region.

The following organisations were represented:

1. COLLEGE EMPLOYERS & TENANTS ASSOCIATION (VRYBURG)
2. VRYBURG SPORTS UNION (VRYBURG)
3. HURUDI YOUTH ORGANISATION (VRYBURG)
4. MANUSA YOUTH PLANNING COMMITTEE (SCH. EIZER KENENE)
5. SALESHELE YOUTH PLANNING COMMITTEE (KIMBERLEY)
6. HURUDI CIVIC ASSOCIATION (VRYBURG)
7. RETAIRED PARENTS SUPPORT COMMITTEE (VRYBURG)
8. GENERAL & ALLIED WORKERS UNION (VRYBURG BR)
9. KURUMAN YOUTH UNITY (KURUMAN)
10. COMMITTEE OF CONCERN (KIMBERLEY)

4. THE FOLLOWING INPUTS WERE MADE AT THE WORKSHOP:

- NB
1. SOUTH AFRICA TODAY (UDF ACTING NATIONAL SEC.)
 2. CAMPAIGNS IN THE REGION (UDF NC REGIONAL ORG.)
 3. ALTERNATIVE STRUCTURE FOR N.C.
 4. ORGANISATION & IDENTIFICATION OF NEEDS (UDF ACT NATSEC)

4.1 SOUTH AFRICA TODAY

- 4.1.1 UDF described as main spiral of political situation.
- 4.1.2 Its campaigns both co-ordinated & isolated ones brought UDF from nowhere to occupy centre-stage in South Africa.
- 4.1.3 Tensions and threats of war on the front. Its indicates defeat of dovs battle of hearts and minds.
- NB 4.1.4 Govt's inability to contain resistance showed 20 years ago.
- 4.1.5 Resistance in the 60's: ban on popular organisations.
- 4.1.6 Revival of popular resistance 10 years ago. New possibilities were thought up.
15/8 Workers strikes largely in Natal
1976/80 Organisations mushrooming
Isolated campaigns conducted.
- 4.1.7 UDF born to co-ordinate campaigns & resist New Deal
- 4.1.8 Economic crisis entrenching itself: increasing prices increasing unemployment increasing labour strikes.
- 4.1.9 Govt's choice was the president Council: P.C. crawling tri-cameral constitution.

- 4.1.10 Intended to bring Coloureds & Indians closer to whites and drive them away from Flacks. Traditional alliance broken.
- 4.1.11 P. M. Botha's overseas trip:
 - (i) To sell constitution.
 - (ii) Popularise Nkomati Accord.
- 4.1.12 Propaganda campaign: TV/Soldiers/Radio/Pro-out newspapers.
- 4.1.13 Initially UDF ignored by state and used to breach opposition so as to appear open & democratic.
- 4.1.14 Implementation of new deal shows costly.
- 4.1.15 Taxes to be increased: People provoked by increase.
- 4.1.16 Chances of frustrating Fledrichsen & Rabanis increasing.
- 4.1.17 Programme of the state frustrated:
 - (i) Tricameral parliament failing.
 - (ii) Moreland's consolidation remote.
 - (iii)
- 4.1.18 Black Local Authorities Frustrated:
 - (i) Vsaal Triangle incidents.
 - (ii) Rent protests nationally.
 - (iii) Percentage polls late '83 e.g. 2%.
- 4.1.19 Reaction of govt
 - (i) Police and army used to contain opposition
- 4.1.20 Police and army too overstretched to cope up with the evergrowing tensions.
- 4.1.21 Our strength lies in our:
 - (i) Understanding these contradictions.
 - (ii) Identifying our strength and
 - (iii) exploiting the enemy's weaknesses.

4.2 CAMPAIGN IN THE REGION

- 4.2.1 See attached analysis of campaigns in the N.C.
- 4.2.2 The following observations and contributions were made through commissions under the following topics
 - Group 1 (i) Racial breakdown
 - (ii) Organisation in the Bantustans.
 - Group 2 (i) Four organisations.
 - Group 3 (i) Lack of resources
 - Group 4 (i) Retaining activists
 - (ii) Harassment.
 - Group 5 (i) The N.C.

4.2.3 All groups had to discuss the alternative structure for Northern Cape.

4.2.4 Group 1

4.2.4.1 Racial breakdown: It was observed that during the Million Signature Campaign & the Anti-election Campaign our different communities (races) participation was often uneven. This results in one community having to tackle an unfamiliar area in another community. This reduces the effectiveness of these participating groups at the level of language and identification of burning issues.

- 4.2.4.2.1 The following proposals were made to relieve the state of affairs on this field
1. Organisations be encouraged in all communities.
 2. Discussions with politically highly developed people be held on a consistent basis.
 3. Activists be equipped with developments in each community in their areas.
 4. Activists be able to reproduce themselves in each community and always have somebody on the spot in each community.

4.2.4.2 Entustment: Due to limited time this topic was not discussed adequately: Broad & butter issues be used in their area also possibilities within official oppositions be explored. Com. in these areas be urged to rise whatever resources they have its advance organisation.

Group 2

4.2.5.1 Poor organisation: It was also observed that the campaigns were not able to filter through to a very large section of communities in the region.

- 4.2.5.2 And in that light the following proposals were made and accepted as possible relief measures:
- (1) Activists should have clear understanding of issues.
 - (2) Workshops and other discussion seminars be organised for activists.
 - (3) Activists should be able to overcome intimidation.
 - (4) Enough consultation before embarking on any programme should be done by before-estab- whoever is charged with that programme.
 - (5) Material conditions should be borne in mind in setting goals for ourselves.
 - (6) Dedication, discipline and honesty should be displayed at all times in our work.
 - (7) Have contact with other areas so as to learn from their experiences.
 - (8) Need for fund-raising is a vital one.
 - (9) Communication and co-ordination with efficiency should be ensured.
 - (10) Use press to publicise activity in your area.

4.2.6 Group 3

4.2.6.1 Lack of resources: The serious lack of resources was one serious observation made. That because of lack of so many vital resources the work of the front was on many occasions delayed.

4.2.6.2 However the following possible relief measures were raised.

- 4.2.6.2 (1) Each need be clearly identified and urgently addressed.
- (2) It is necessary to a vice centres to understanding or understand our legal position during our work.
- (3) Establish area and regional media committees.
- (4) Establish fund-raising committees.
- (5) Media committees should visit organised area.
- (6) Subscriptions be paid by each member/member organisations
- (7) However lack of resources should be used to hide away other inherent weaknesses.
- (8) Brief introduction of a newly founded project was made: LESADI: It is aimed at providing alternative media: at the moment it is able to produce posters and front t-shirts on a screen (See Sp. enclosed pamphlet)

~~6666666666~~ GROUP 4

4.2.7.1 Maintaining activists: Again it was observed that there is a loss in practice in most of our organisations. ... of activists not being able to remain dedicated members of ... of our structures

4.2.7.2 In applying the following possible solutions the situation could be improved noticeably:

- (1) Consist programme of action.
- (2) Define the deadline best for each project work.
- (3) Everyone should be made to feel home by all possible ways.
- (4) Workshop be explain issues should be regular.
- (5) Sub-committees, where all will be given tasks, should be created.
- (6) Leadership should be decentralised and circularised.
- (7) Democratic procedures should be observed at all levels.
- (8) Interests of all members should be treated equally at all times.

4.2.7.3 Harassment: Another observation was that harassment from all levels impairs strength of our organisations.

4.2.7.4 The following proposals were raised:

- (1) Workers shouldn't resign from work but rather join trade unions to alleviate harassment at the factory floor.
- (2) Activists should be provided, though insufficient, with legal representation.
- (3) Literature explaining legal rights of activists should be available at all times.

4.2.8 Group 5

4.2.8.1 The Million signature Campaign: The aims of the campaign were brain-stormed in this group:

- (1) Expose the referendum lie.
- (2) Reveal true feelings of the people of S.A

- 4.2.8.1 (2) to international community.
(3) Show our rejection of the new deal.
(4) Equip ourselves with organisational planning-be-dr-wr skills.

4.2.8.2

- The following proposals were made :
- (1) M.S.C should continue.
 - (2) Better organisational planning be drawn.
 - (3) Committees in each area be formed.
 - (4) Co-ordination be done consistently

4.3 ALTERNATIVE STRUCTURE FOR NORTHERN CAPE

4.3.1 Due to peculiar structure problems pertaining to the region, it has proven difficult to get properly structured like all other regions. The vastness of the region, the lack of resources, uneven organisational development, poor communication and co-ordination were largely blamed.

Two alternatives were offered!

- (1) To alternatives undertake to overcome the problem within a specified period and structure the region as any other region.
- (2) To form sub-regions in each area and have a regional steering committee to co-ordinate activities of the sub-regions. Linking these regions and ultimately forming regional general council.

4.3.2 The area-committee in Vryburg was extended to & became a regional steering committee.

4.3.3 The deadline to have the regional general council was set as 31st January 1985.

4.4 ORGANISATION & IDENTIFICATION OF NEEDS

4.4.1 MOBILIZATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

4.4.1.1 Past experiences and historical records show correctness of mobilization.

4.4.1.2 National party winner with period of active resistance led by the then legal African National Congress.

4.4.1.3 Membership of A.N.C. was mass-based and thus popular

4.4.1.3 Pass demonstrations, Alexandra Bus boycotts, Potato boycott and defiance campaign were used to mobilize.

4.4.1.4 Membership of A.N.C. was mass-based and thus popular unlike N.A.U.M & P.A.C.

4.4.1.5 The Sharpeville incident offered state a pretext to declare state of emergency.

4.4.2 UDF & ORGANISATION

4.4.2.1 UDF offering formidable opposition to govt.

4.4.2.2 Popularity grew from its mass-base.

4.4.2.3 Emphasis placed on involvement of masses at all levels.

4.4.2.4 Professionals, businessmen's & other academics support should be lobbied.

(iii) they also felt AREA COMMITTEE should issue press statements only on condition that there is prior consultation with the UDF TRANSVALL executive committee;

F. A committee of 4 people was appointed to work on this REPORT.

G. It was resolved that:

(a) Each organisation that attended the workshop should send concrete suggestions to the Area Committee on:

- (i) What is the role and function of our area committee for the next 14 months?
- (ii) What is the responsibility of organisations to their area committees? (accountability, acceptance of area committee decisions, discipline, etc)
- (iii) How are organisations to be represented on our area committee?
- (iv) What structures are needed in our area committee? (eg. Executive Committee, Education committee, Finance Committee etc.)
- (v) How our area committee can raise funds so that it is financially independent of the UDF (TVL).

H: Each organisation is requested to make the relevant recommendations as soon as possible.

- 4.4.2.5 However worker-position in the struggle should not be lost track of workers also need academics
- 4.4.2.6 People who have been shocked into silence should be won over.
- 4.4.2.7 Activists should have ground-level approach to carry the masses along with them. Confidence should be instilled in the masses.
- 4.4.2.8 A conflict situation between our activists and normally religious rural communities should be avoided at all costs.
- 4.4.2.9 Organisations should not become sole properties of leaders, the masses should be involved in the decision-moving process!
- 4.4.2.10 We must strike to heighten our ability learn to identify our obstacles and endeavour to solve our own problems.

5. POSIBLE APPROACHES FOR REGIONAL ORGANISATION

- 5.1. Setting up advice offices: Help our people form organisations.
- 5.2. Newspaper for the region.
- 5.3. Conscription: find ways of keeping our youth away from that.
- 5.4. Fund-raising: Initiate fund-raising drives.
- 5.5. Housing: Acute country-wide should be highlighted amongst our youth & communities with the following themes contextualised to suit our situation: PARTICIPATION, DEVELOPMENT & PEACE used as mobilization factor.
- 5.6. International Youth Year: ~~With the following~~ should be highlighted amongst our youth & communities: With the following themes contextualised to suit our situation: PARTICIPATION, DEVELOPMENT & PEACE.
- 5.7. Farm-workers: Should be reached out and organised.
- 5.8. Women: Organisations for women should be encouraged women organisations are seen as barometers of organisation. N.C. by lack of a women's organisation indicative of its low level of organisational development.
- 5.9. Sports organisation: should strive for non-racing sport.
- 5.10. Education: Student- organisations should be formed. Govt's fake SAC's should be rejected. Observation was made that there's no student organisations in the region.

6. ASSESSMENT OF WORKSHOP

- 6.1. Partucue Participation not excellent.
- 6.2. Programme should be availed in due course to facilitate maximum participation.
- 6.3. Workshop should have stretched over two days.
- 6.4. ~~Workshop should have stretched~~ Anyway substantial gains were made according participants.
- 6.5. And workshops and other similar forms should be encouraged.

7. THE REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE.

7.1 The regional steering committee was formed with the following names serving in the committee:

- (1) G.K. Galeng (Huhudi Civic Ass.) (Chair)
- (2) M. Chetty (Committee of Concern) (Parsons)

- 7.1. (3) J.M. Khasu (Secretary)
- (4) B.R. Hermanus (Publicity Sec.) (comm of concern)
- (5) Rev. Maekane (Kimb. UDF Area Com.) (Committee)
- (6) C. Letisela (Comm. of Concern) (Members)
- (7) K. Crutse (D.F.S.C. (Huhudi) (Co-))
- (8) W. Lanseveldt (Cocridge ratepayers) (Treasurer)

8. The committee was immediately charged with a responsibility to organise workshops in all major areas. The next committee meeting was set for the 27th Oct. 1984 in Vryburg.

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