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EVATON PEOPLE'S TRANSPORT COUNCIL

P.O. Box 33,
Wilberforce,
Evaton. Tvl.

14th. Nov. 1955.

Messrs. Evaton Passenger Service, (Pty.) Ltd.,
Beacon House,
West Street,
JOHANNESBURG.

Attention: Mr. V.D'Agnese.

Dear Sir,

We are in receipt of your communications of the 11th. inst., for which we thank you very much. We also wish to welcome you back to South Africa from your holiday in Italy, and hope you enjoyed yourself.

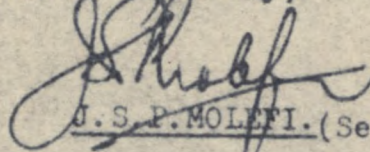
In reply to your request to meet our representatives to discuss the various problems which arose during your absence, we regret to inform you that all negotiations with your company have been terminated. Perhaps some of your colleagues who were engaged in the destruction of our boycott during your absence will be in a position to enlighten you on your "various problems" alluded to in your letter.

We are continuing with the boycott of your company's buses and are proceeding unilaterally in solving this problem which you yourselves precipitated.

Your company has caused irreparable damage to us through the loss of human lives and the general disruption of our peaceful village. We are therefore convinced that your company can never serve us in any manner in the future.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,



J. S. P. MOLEFI. (Secretary)

for Evaton People's Transport Council.

Bewusstes No.
 Gebyr *Overhouse Walmsley road*
 Deur *St. Anne's Wards*
 Te *Evaton "Jaba's Square"*
 Datum *6/11/1955*

SPECIAL BULLETIN TO THE PEOPLE OF KLIPTOWN, MODDERFONTEIN
 AND ALEXANDRA TOWNSHIP.

PEOPLE OF EVATON AND MID-ANNANDALE HAVE BOYCOTTED THE ITALIANS FOR
 FIFTEEN WEEKS.

On the 25th July, 1955, the people of Evaton began what was to be the greatest bus strike in the history of South Africa. The boycott is still on and the people are more determined than ever to continue it until victory is theirs.

You all know that the boycott came as a result of the increase in fares by the bus-owners. This increase in fares is unjust and ridiculous - it means large profits for the Italians and more POVERTY FOR THE PEOPLE. Why must we pay more to the wealthy whilst our wages are so low?

THEY ARE COMING TO YOU AGAIN: The same bus Company which struck Kliptown last year is the very Company which is striking Evaton to-day. In Kliptown the boycott continued for six weeks and proved abortive; as a result the people there are paying more.

TERRORISM IN EVATON: Ever since the boycott began in Evaton, thugs and hirelings have molested the people in a manner not unlike that of paid agents. These traitors used brutal force on the people to force them into the buses, BUT THE PEOPLE RESISTED..... The police have been partial spectators and referees during these dangerous and unlawful attacks on the people by the hooligans. This is a very striking example of unfair execution of justice in matters where the Capitalists are fighting the people.....

On Monday 24th October, 1955, the Evaton Passenger Services' buses were forcefully reintroduced against the people's wish, and a group of hirelings attacked the people in a march. During the attack two MEN were butchered to death by these thugs and seven were injured. The police then seized all the dangerous weapons which these thugs used and later returned the instruments to them. **DESPITE THE FACT THAT WE WERE ATTACKED AND TWO OF OUR MEN BUTCHERED TO DEATH, SEVEN OF US WERE ARRESTED, AND NONE OF THE THUGS. JUSTICE! !**

THINK OF THE FUTURE:

Think of the situation in Evaton to-day - the atrocities and intimidation perpetrated there by the "bought-outs" and the thugs. These might be inflicted upon you to-morrow. The bus Company means blood-shed and tragedy to us to-day it will mean that to you to-morrow. We now understand the bus Company not by its "sweet" words but by its hideous deeds.

THE ITALIANS ARE GOING OUT:

On the question of transport we can no longer tolerate the Evaton Passenger Service, and we feel that for the future security and transport stability of the people it serves at other points, we must UNITE NOW to ensure victory to the people of Evaton and to allay any future problems in other places served by the Evaton Passenger Service and its subsidiary Companies. Victory for Evaton and Mid-Annandale will be victory for you all!

We are tired of these Italians, tired of their poor service. and tired of the "bullies" and rude staff they employ. We are in a majority, stronger and the whole of South Africa is with us. Let us unite and cast aside the vile practices perpetrated by the Company personnel.

Remember friends, they have tried various methods by which to gain confidence of the people, hired men to entice the people. These methods have hopelessly failed in the midst of determination and a fighting courage.

Leaders and pickets who carried out the true aspirations of the masses were arrested and kept in custody on various allegations. They were taken away from the masses to curb a peaceful campaign.

Unity is strength.

Come on! Let us fight these forces of brutality. Invite us to your meeting - our speakers are ready to address you.

.....ISSUED BY THE EVATON PEOPLE'S TRANSPORT
 COUNCIL.

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FOUR MONTHSand the struggle goes on.

After four months of struggle and determination the boycott has reached its turning point. Our struggle has been long and protracted and we have been subjected to all forms of intimidation and provocation by the police and henchmen of the bus co. - this did not deter us: instead it spurred us to march forward. And it is precisely because we are marching forward that the bus company is retreating. We must forge ahead until we have pushed them beyond the borders of our village. THEY USED TO RUN 17 HEAVILY OVER-CROWDED buses before and NOW THEY RUN ONLY 2 EMPTY BUSES. They must in fact run no buses at all. With the whole machinery of our organisation improved, the situation must change into our favour.

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A SO-CALLED "EVATON BUS BOSS" IS BACK.

Last Monday, the "DANTU WORLD" published an irresponsible statement by V.D'Agnesse, alias Long One, the so-called "bus boss", in which he expresses his desire to meet the EVATON PEOPLE'S TRANSPORT COUNCIL in order to settle the transport problem in the interests of both parties. He further states that he has the welfare of the people at heart. For the last 5 months he has been living in oblivion in Italy, holiday-making and resting. When he left South Africa, he left in his office a blue-print for the imposition of high fares on us. He knew, at the time, that we could not afford to pay anything more than we were paying. They increased the fares and we launched our boycott. Long One ought to have been there to be witness - he was in Italy. His colleagues employed all sorts of satanic measures on us to break our boycott but they failed. The bus company, its staff and henchmen caused irreparable damage to us through plunder, assaults, robbery and general misconduct that we can never forgive them. To-day, back from a good holiday, Long One says he has our welfare at heart. No Long One, your good sympathies are rather too late. The bus company has cost us too much now - it has even cost us our lives. The people have decided to have nothing to do with you now and in the future.

"The Voice of the People is the Voice of God" - it will be carried out.... We repudiate every word in Long One's windy statement. We shall no longer be bluffed.

BUS TRANSPORT IN OTHER AREAS -

A threat of an increase in the fares by PUTCO is hanging over the heads of many African and other non-European people in other areas in Johannesburg and Pretoria. The latest report which has reached our head-quarters states that the people in all the affected places are mobilising for action. They are getting ready to boycott the buses as soon as the fares are increased. THE INCREASE IS BY A PERCENT ! Many people all over the Reef are impressed at the stand the Evaton and Mid-Annadale people have taken and feel certain that we shall win. Very soon the whole Johannesburg will echo AZIKHHELEMA ! !

TRIALS OF OUR PICKETS AND LEADERS.

- Monday 7th, November: Mr. Mkoala Mofokeng appeared before the Evaton magistrate. He was alleged to have assaulted a certain man who got down a bus last week at Small Farms. In actual fact he passed the scene of the assault riding a bicycle. There was no evidence and he was discharged. This is another of those cases where we get arrested for the fun of it and pay much in defence fees for nothing.
- Friday 20th, November: Mr. Moko and others.
- Thursday and Friday 17th, and 18th. Mr. Molefi and others.
- Thursday 24th, November: Mr. Kekana and others

ARREST : A young school-boy of 17 years is locked up in jail for picketing. His name is "Cupa" Likootla. He has been refused bail but arrangements are being made to let his examinations be conducted in jail. We wish him all success in his school exams.

* *****

COME TO THE MEETING ON SUNDAY 13th, November 1955 AT 9.00 A.M. at JADA'S CORNER.

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HEAR MR. MOTSELE OF ALEXANDRA TOWNSHIP AND OTHER SPEAKERS FROM JOHANNESBURG.

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RECORDS RELATING TO THE 'TREASON TRIAL' (REGINA vs F. ADAMS AND OTHERS ON CHARGE OF HIGH TREASON, ETC.), 1956 1961

TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961

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