

I
SPECIMEN PROPAGANDA.

I urge that the Vigilance Committee use propaganda with the tone of the following amongst groups threatened by the Group Areas Act. The idea is to turn self-interest into idealism because it seems to me that in the last resort ideals can only be achieved by idealists.

I think we must recognise the fact that it is not in the short term interests of such threatened people to co-operate with our committee, and we shall have to arouse nobler emotions than can be achieved by an appeal merely to defend their own homes in circumstances in which we cannot really hope to save them from the immediate threat. This is not suggested as a final draft for the case of Duff's Road since I am sure that others will be able to improve the wording and the facts have still to be confirmed from independent sources as far as possible. I have no doubt the case presented here is substantially correct and will prove typical of the future.

TO THE THREATENED PEOPLE OF DUFF'S ROAD.

Now you are the threatened ones. Apartheid is to take away your homes, the homes in which your families have lived, some for one generation, some for two or more generations, and some ever since the first Indians settled on their own land in Natal. They, government and city council, say they need your little piece of land for the Africans - "Natives" they call them. They plan to buy nearly three thousand acres of land for their scheme, but they must also have your homes and shops and businesses. Why? It cannot be because mere two hundred acres will make much difference. They could surely be found elsewhere. It is because you are Indians and the others are "Natives." Because you are Indians, they say, you do not want to live near Africans, or if you do you ought not to want to. Anyway they don't want you to. And, they say, the "Natives" will not like you. They ought not to like you. Only their "agitators" have no "proper" pride for race. So you must go across the buffer, the railway line must separate the two peoples. This is the theory, for to the misguided men who rule to-day it is a sin to make friends across racial barriers. The way to keep peace between the races is to encourage them not to like each others' ways so that they will have nothing to do with each other! So you must move across the line and a great new "Native location" is to swallow up Duff's Road, and you, the threatened ones, are sad or angry or fearful. We understand.

But you are not the only threatened ones. All over South Africa many Africans, many Coloureds and Indians, and a handful of Whites too, face expropriation to appease the god "Apartheid." In Charlestown in Northern Natal, through which Gandhi's satyagrah passed, the Africans now face a worse fate than you. For not only must they move many miles into the country but they will not be allowed to own their own land there. They must always have the government for their landlord. And what of the Africans who are to come to Duff's Road? You know that they need houses desperately and you do not begrudge them houses, but see how they, too, are threatened ones. True they will have new houses instead of old slums, but at a new distance from their place of work. And they will have new regulations, "Locations regulations," which cannot be enforced in the slums in which they live now. And they are not going to be allowed to make the choice between slums and freedom against houses and rules. They must also move as

they are told/.....

they are told. The choice is made for them. And what of the white location superintendent who will live amongst them to apply the regulations? Can his life be really good? If he is a bad man and is harsh he will stand in great danger in the end, but if he is a good man even so Apartheid will cut him off from them and he will be lonely and will still be in danger in the end. You are not the only threatened ones. All South Africa is in great danger.

What can we do? What can you do? Well first you can refuse to think and live apartheid. You can seek your friends amongst all the peoples around you with the common bond that all are threatened ones. If you have the courage to persevere you will find other peoples so like you really. Of course they will not be perfect - neither are you - so do not let their faults dismay you. One-day making friends will break Apartheid. The more we practise it the sooner that day will come. But what else can you do? You can attend our protest meetings and tell us true stories of your hardships. To the best of our ability we shall tell all South Africa and the world about them.

So with courage you can help us to try to save your homes, but you can also do something far greater than that. You can help to build a new South Africa, free from racial hatreds, and if you have courage nobody can stop you.

NOW TO SAVE YOUR LANDS AND OUR LAND
UNITE,
AND REMAIN UNITED,
REFUSE TO MAKE IT EASY FOR APARTHEID,
STATE YOUR CASE WITH COURAGE.
DO NOT PANIC.

Issued by: E. K. Hill,

on behalf of the Group Areas Vigilance Committee, Natal, set up by:
Natal Indian Congress,
African National Congress, Natal,
South African Congress of Democrats, Natal,
South African Liberal Party, Natal.

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TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961

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