

AKM. 497

REPORT ①

OF

THE SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION

WHICH HAD ATTENDED

THE

THE 1VTH. WORLD FESTIVAL OF YOUTH AND STUDENTS

IN BUCHAREST, RUMANIA

AUGUST 2ND. TO 16TH. 1953.

Verwijst naar No. ...  
Dated ...  
Te ...  
Deur ...  
Gekry by ...  
Rouwsig ...  
N. Mandela  
S.H. Rossouw  
25-10-53  
5/12/56

Mr. Speaker, Sons and Daughters of Africa,

On the invitation of the World Federation of Democratic Youth in June 1953 nine Africans and Indians left South Africa to attend the 4th. World Festival of Youth and Students for Peace and Friendship which was held in Bucharest, in Rumania, from the 2nd. to the 16th. August.

Among those who left was Mr. W.M. Sisulu, Secretary-General of the African National Congress who had been invited to the festival as a personality and a guest. The others were part of the South African contingent accredited as delegates by the South African Festival Committee. The South African Delegation at the festival was composed of seven Africans from South Africa, two Indians, one Coloured and thirty two Europeans.

This was the first time that South Africa was going to be so well represented at a Festival and it was absolutely important that all arrangements be made to ensure the arrival of the delegates/.....

delegates. In view of the restrictions on the movements of non-European s and the consistent refusal of the Government to give passports to Africans these delegates left the country lawfully but without passports. As most of them were prominent members of Congress and the Youth Organisations it was necessary to be discreet about their proposed departure and to exercise the utmost vigilance in order to elude any attempts by the Government to stop them. From later reports it appears that the police did try to interfere, but unfortunately for them they arrived three hours too late at the airport.

WHAT IS THE W.F.D.Y.?

When the Allied Anti-Fascist Forces had defeated and crushed the Fascist hordes of Hitler's Nazi Germany, Mussolini's Fascist Italy and Imperialistic Japan which had attempted to enslave the peoples of the world, there was a spontaneous demand by the common people of the world to secure a lasting peace. The peoples of the world who, twice in their life-time, had seen the brutal destruction of life and property and had witnessed a weapon of mass-destruction, the Atom bomb, rightly demanded that all efforts should be directed to securing international cooperation, international harmony and international security, in order to avert another world war. The demand of the people who had borne the brunt of the war for a lasting peace found expression in the formation of international organisations.

(A) The United Nations Organisation.

The fundamental function of this organisation is the solution of international disputes by peaceful negotiation between States and in this way it lessens international tension and acts/.....

and acts as a protector of peace.

(b) The World Federation of Trade Unions.

The World Federation of Trade Unions was formed in 1945 and its function is to discuss the common problems of workers throughout the world in order to strengthen the solidarity of the workers in defending their rights and in their struggle for better working and living conditions; to strengthen their co-operation in the defence of World Peace.

(c) The World Peace Council.

The W.P.C. unites the efforts of all the peoples of the World, whatever their political opinions, religious beliefs, or colour, on the sole basis that Peace is desired by everybody and that there are no international disputes that cannot be solved by peaceful negotiation. It organises world-wide campaigns in protest against all conditions which threaten World Peace and suggests positive methods of lessening international tension.

(d) The International Union of Students.

The I.U.S. was formed in 1946 and its fundamental aim is to unite students on the basis of their common interests and problems irrespective of their political opinions, religious beliefs or colour; to strive for international student co-operation and solidarity in order to struggle for better conditions of education and employment after graduation; to make a united contribution to the struggle for World Peace.

(e) The World Federation of Democratic Youth.

The W.F.D.Y. was formed in 1945 and its fundamental aim is the development of international understanding and co-operation amongst/.....

amongst the youth of the world in the fields of economic, political, educational, cultural and social activity in order to develop mutual respect and thus contribute to the world-wide struggle for international cooperation and harmony.

In order to achieve its aims the W.F.D.Y. has a variety of activities one of which is the organisation of Festivals for Peace and Friendship once every two years at one of the capitals of Europe. In 1947 the Festival was in Prague, 1949 in Budapest, 1951 in Berlin. At these Festivals Youth of different social origin, political opinions, religious beliefs, most differing in many respects but bound by the common conviction that Peace is the common need of all Youth.

The enemies of Peace and Friendship in the world have described these Festivals as Communist Festivals and it is most unfortunate that a certain number of democratic and peace-loving people have been susceptible to this propaganda and have accepted this malicious charge which is intended to split the people of the world into two hostile camps. These people have accepted this charge without examining the facts and the source of the propaganda. It is therefore important to examine this allegation in detail in order to dispel the illusions of the mis-informed.

#### 1. IS THE W.F.D.Y A COMMUNIST ORGANISATION?

In Section 3 of its constitution the aims of the W.F.D.Y are stated as follows:- "The aims of the federation shall be

- (a) To strive for close international ~~understanding~~ and cooperation amongst the youth in the fields of economic, political, educational, cultural and social activity, with respect for diversity/.....

for DIVERSITY OF IDEAS AND NATIONAL CONDITIONS; to make the maximum contribution to the elimination of FASCISM in all its forms; to render active assistance to the governments in ensuring peace and security in bringing up the rising generation in the spirit of Democracy, and in raising the standard of life of the young generation.

(b) To work for the active participation of youth in economic, political, social, and cultural life for the removal of all restrictions and qualifications connected with sex, method of education, domicile, property, or social status, religion, political belief, colour or race; to ensure for the democratic youth, freedom of speech, press, religious belief, assembly and demonstration, and to assist the foundation of Democratic Youth organisations where these do not exist.'

Are these aims Communistic? Do you have to be a member of the Communist Party before you can claim to be a democratic youth?

Perhaps there is something Communistic in the activities of the W.F.D.Y. Let us examine the activities of the W.F.D.Y.

Apart from the organisation of Festivals the W.F.D.Y. maintains the closest possible contact with the following organisations: The United Nations Organisations, particularly with the U.N. Cultural and Educational Organisation and the U.N. Social and Economic Council, and also with the World Federation of Trade Unions and all International Organisations whose aims are compatible with those of the Federation and which concern themselves with the problems of youth, education or work like the World <sup>Youth</sup> Christian Council .

Are these organisations/...

ARE these organisations Communist organisations?

The W.F.D.Y represents 80 million youth in 85 different countries. These countries include amongst others: Australia, Britian, France, Germany, the United States of America, Pakistan, India, the U.S.S.R. These youth represent different political opinions ranging from Capitalists to Communists. They also represent different religious beliefs which include Christians, Moslems, Buddhists, Jews and Atheists. Can it be said that the membership of the W.F.D.Y. is a Communist membership?

#### THE FESTIVAL.

At the Festival in Bucharest there were 33,000 youth representing 111 different countries, differing in political and religious outlook. There were the Chinese from China, the Indonesians, the South Americans, the Nigerians, the Senegalese, the Egyptians, the Ghanas from Gold Coast and all the various youth from the 111 countries. It indeed a representative gathering of world youth.

For two weeks the youth of the world met in the theatres of Bucharest to display the beauty of their national cultures which included folk dances, music, plays; in the cinemas films from shores of different countries were shown; friendly sports matches and competitions were held in foot-ball, volley ball, basket-ball, light athletics, swimming, boxing, tennis, and other sports. In sport demonstrations world champions such as Emil Zatopek were seen in action. Youth who had achieved high standards in sports, gymnastics, and artistic performances/.....

performances were given prizes. Throughout the Festival meetings were arranged between delegations from different countries most impressive and moving was the meeting of the French Delegation with the heroes of Vietnam, the meeting of the American Delegation with the heroic youth of Korea. At these meetings youth discussed the problems of youth in their different countries. The South African Delegation had the opportunity to meet and discuss with the youth delegations from the great Republic of China, the youth from the Republic of Germany, the youth from Czechoslovakia, the youth from Gold Coast, Nigeria, French West Africa, Indonesia, Switzerland, Rumania, United States of America and, on Colonial Day, the South African Delegation attended a meeting of the British Delegation together with the Delegations from the British Colonies. At these meetings there were a freindly exchanges of gifts between the Delegations as symbols of lasting friendship.

There were also meetings of diffeent youth groups like the meeting of the peasant youth and the workers; the faculty meetings of students who met to discuss the problems of the particular aspect of life they were interested in.

In the big exhibition hall there were exhibitions made by the various delegations of the conditions of lives of youth in the digferent countries. This was another attempt by the W.F.D.Y. to create mutual understanding and respect among the youth of the world.

CAN it be said that the activities at this Festival were

Communist/.....

Communist?

The Festival had a very desirable effect of breaking down the artificial barriers which are placed between youth of different colours and beliefs and which constitute fertile ground for developing misunderstanding in order to make the youth susceptible to war propaganda.

The meeting of youth on such occasions where they exchange their national cultures and experiences in stead of exchanging bullets develops mutual respect and appreciation which are essential for the harmony of the world. The discussions of problems of youth in such an international forum reveals the common interests and problems of youth which overshadow the small differences and thus develops the co-operation and solidarity of youth, alienates conflicts and contributes to World Peace and Friendship.

The Festival was particularly significant to the South African Delegation which came from a country where racial prejudice and hostility are fanned, where the youth of different racial groups are separated and grow in racial shells and where opportunities for the youth of the different racial groups to participate <sup>jointly</sup> in life and sport are denied to them by the artificial barriers of the Government. The South African Delegation was a mixed delegation which lived together, ate together, slept together and gave cultural performances together. The deep friendship which was developed between the members of the delegation clearly exposes the insanity, corruption and destructiveness of Dr. Malan's Apartheid.

It is important/.....



It is important to examine the sources of this malicious propaganda which is intended to split the youth of the world into hostile camps.

WHO SAY THAT THE FESTIVAL IS COMMUNIST, AND WHY?

The sources of the slander are the American Capitalistic, Monopolistic, Government and Press; the British Imperialistic Government and Press; the French Government and Press, Holland, Belgium, Italy, Western Germany and the South African Government and Capitalistic Press.

It should be noted that the countries of Western Europe which join America's chorus in condemning this Festival as a Communistic activity are the very same countries which have accepted America's colonizing dollars in the form of the notorious Marshall Aid and that since their acceptance of this Aid they have relied completely on the aid of America to think for them and design their foreign policies. It should also be noted that these countries are all Imperialistic countries.

These countries following the United States of America have joined in a campaign to divide the world into two hostile camps. They have split the unity of the peoples of the world by withdrawing from all international unions except the U.N.O. In withdrawing from these unions they have always declared that they do so because these unions are Communistic although they donot produce even a tittle of evidence to substantiate their charge.

What is the Policy of these Governments?

They claim to be the champions and defenders of Democracy,

Freedom and World Peace but

(1) in the United Nations Organisation they have opposed the banning of the Atom bomb and the disarmament proposals of the Soviet Union which were supported by the vast majority of the peace-loving peoples of the world. Instead of disarming they have grouped themselves into the North Atlantic Alliance whose army is headed by American generals for the ostensible reason that this is necessary for the defence of Western Europe from Communist menace. Everyday, however, it is becoming clearer that this is <sup>to the peoples of the world</sup> not a Defence alliance but an Aggression alliance;

(2) they are now attempting to form a European Defence Community which is intended to revive German militarism under the Fascist Adenauer, and to keep Germany divided into two hostile camps. The Americans boast that the E.D.C. will "liberate" the Eastern European Peoples' Democracies. The E.D.C. army, it is planned, will be led by Hitler's old generals - Generals Heusinger, Speidel, Manteuffel, and Friessner. It is well known that the re-militarisation of Germany constitutes the most dangerous threat to World Peace;

(3) but these very supposed defenders of peace, democracy and freedom allow themselves to be swindled by the U.S. monopolistic capitalists into condemning the North Koreans as aggressors when the facts are and the truth is, that the war in Korea was begun by the South Koreans under the instructions of Syngman Rhee, the Fascist and lackey of American Imperialism. The sixteen-nation satellites of American Imperialists participated/.....

lists participated in the brutal and unjustified massacre of the peace-loving peoples of North Korea. Against this most barbaric war the heroic people of North Korea with the support of the glorious Chinese Volunteers defended their motherland from enslavement and delivered a crushing blow to Imperialistic Adventures of America and her satellites. This is a clear lesson to the Imperialists.

These facts are a negation of the peaceful intentions claimed by the American, French, British and other capitalistic governments; they are a negation of the very principles which they profess to defend, the principles of international co-operation and harmony. It is well known that the Americans have got war-bases in twentyseven countries some of which are: Greece, Turkey, Japan, Fascist Spain, France, Britain, Western Germany, Iceland and Italy. It is also known that Britain is fighting wars to suppress the legitimate demands of people for national independence and democracy in Malaya, in Burma and now today the brutal massacres in Kenya; that they are bullying and imposing their will on the peoples of Bechuanaland, Uganda, and British Guiana. It is well known that the French are suffering defeat after defeat in their unjust war to suppress the legitimate demands of the peoples of Vietnam; in Tunisia and Morocco leaders of the liberatory movements have been murdered in order to suppress the struggle for the freedom and independence of their people.

These are the defenders of liberty, democracy, and peace. The Imperialists stand exposed as the enemies of peace,

national/.....

national independence, international cooperation, freedom, mutual respect and understanding of human beings. They encourage and foment hatred and division of mankind.

They are opposed to all peace movements and they are frantically preparing for war because war means vast profits for the monopolistic capitalists, but for the ordinary person it means suffering and death. Facts show that American production was on a decline between 1946 and 1949 and there was a sudden rise in 1950 when the war in Korea began. This rise continued throughout the war until the beginning of this year when the prospects of peace in Korea caused a sharp drop in the stock exchange prices in New York. The Imperialists are ruthlessly crushing the aspirations of the Colonial peoples for independence and freedom because national independence means to the capitalists the loss of the opportunity to exploit and a reduction of their profits. All these things are done with the excuse that there is a Communist menace. In America this Communist Menace Hysteria of Senator Macarthy has led to the brutal murder of the Rosenberg couple. It is this hysteria, this fear of harmony which makes the Imperialists see Communist activity in a friendly football match between the youth of the the Soviet Union and the youth of India.

Today American Monopoly Capitalists have vested interests in all countries of Western Europe and Africa and the U.S. government takes a keen interest in what is called the "maintenance of internal security and stability," the suppression of the "Communist menace," which in effect means the suppression  
of the oppressed/.....

of the oppressed and the exploited peoples who are striving for their basic human rights. The U.S. Government is supplying arms to various countries and it is known that there is an agreement between the South African Government and the U.S. Government by which the U.S. Government has undertaken to supply ~~the~~ South Africa with the most modern weapons for internal security.

At the glorious Festival for Peace and Friendship the youth from all countries demonstrated a keen interest in knowing the conditions of the youth of the world. The South African Delegation in a series of formal and informal meetings, articles, and broadcast interviews supplied the youth with the facts about South Africa. The oppression and condition of youth in South Africa usually aroused indignation in the freedom-loving youth of the world. Many youth delegations were keen that other youth should not only hear about their countries but should actually visit those countries in order to see for themselves the condition of youth and the peoples of their motherlands. Three of the South African Delegation were invited to the Peoples' Republic of Bulgaria. Among the three was Mr. Hutchinson who has reported that ~~the~~ from his two weeks' stay in Bulgaria they came in contact and discussed with peoples in various walks of life and what impressed him most was their enthusiasm and concern for the maintenance of world peace so that they may construct their country, raise their standard of living and also their deep sympathy with the struggle for liberation of the non-European people in South Africa/.....

Africa. Mr. Hutchinson wrote <sup>an</sup> articles in which he described the condition of the non-European people and their struggle. Mr. Ngotyana made a broadcast to the Bulgarian people on South Africa.

A group of South African students attended the 3rd. World Congress of Students for Peace and Cooperation in Warsaw in Poland and to the 1,000 ~~xxxxxx~~ delegates from 100 countries Miss Lindie Ngakane read a paper describing the condition of students in South Africa. The delegates also report that in their discussions with the people of Poland they found the enthusiasm for world peace and national independence.

Mr. Nokwe made a broadcast statement on the conditions of youth in South Africa.

They also report that the enthusiasm and courage with which the Polish people are re-building their town, Warsaw, which had been destroyed by Hitler's fascists was most inspiring.

Mr. W.M. Sisulu, Secretary-General of the African National Congress, Mr. Ismael Bheola, and Mr. Duma Nokwe were invited to the Soviet Union and China and they report about the Soviet Union that they were amazed by the high standard of living of the people, the incomparable educational and recreational facilities for youth, the high standard of cultural entertainment for the working people of the Soviet Union. They remark about the magnificence of the new Moscow University which they regard as an educational palace unrivalled by any other in the world. In this educational palace students study and do not pay any fees but instead they are paid monthly stipends. ~~xxxx~~ Here, as elsewhere/.....

as elsewhere, the demand for world peace takes priority in the lives and education of the people. They were also impressed by the harmony of the various nationalities within the Soviet Union. The keen interest shown by the people of the Soviet Union in the affairs of South Africa manifested itself in the request for articles and broadcast interviews which were given by Mr. W.M. Sisulu, Mr. Duma Nokwe and Mr. Ismael Bhoola.

In China the South African Delegation was most impressed by the warm hospitality with which they were received in this great land of 600 million people. They report that the rapid transformation of China from a poverty, famine-stricken country, where mothers were compelled by exploitation of the Imperialists and their lackeys, Chiang Kai Shek, to sell their daughters into prostitution, into a prosperous New China which is able to export food, is amazing. They met and discussed with workers, peasants, factory owners, Roman Catholic Priests, Trade Union Leaders, Moslem Priests, Anglican Church Priests and all these people were unanimous in their conviction that China is marching forward after it had been marking time for a thousand years.

Since 1949 when the Peoples' Republic of China was established the creative abilities of the 600 million people in China have been unleashed and they are all demanding World Peace in order that they may construct their country and raise their prosperity to new heights. As a people who have been recently the victims of oppression and exploitation, they have deep sympathy with and take a very keen interest in the struggle of the oppressed people against exploitation and Imperialism on their request

At their request Mr. W. M. Sisulu made a broadcast statement to the world and a detailed statement indicating the conditions of the people in South Africa. There were numerous <sup>oppressed</sup> informal discussions where one or other of the delegates explained the position in South Africa.

The Chinese gave it as their firm conviction that with persistent struggle and heroic sacrifice the non-European people in South Africa will be victorious.

In England Mr. Sisulu was able to meet various leaders from Africa and to discuss common problems. He also addressed a meeting on South Africa.

#### THE VALUE OF THE VISITS.

Mr. Speaker, Sons and Daughters of Africa, the Government of this country is spending 83 thousand pounds per year on what it regards as publicity for South Africa. In this publicity the peoples of the world are told how happy the non-European peoples are under the benevolent leadership of White Supremacy in South Africa. In this way the Government is able to deceive the people of the world and to maintain its friendship with the Imperialist powers to vote, or abstain from voting, with it at U.N.O. when its racial policy is being condemned.

During this tour the South African Delegation was able

- (1) To expose the Government and to win the support and sympathy, <sup>and</sup> friendship of the vast masses of the people in ~~xxxx~~ 110 countries. We have no doubts that this is a binding and lasting friendship.

- (2) The South Africans were able to visit several countries and observe/.....



and observe for themselves the true facts about the conditions of the people and they are now able to refute the distortions and slanders of the Imperialists. It is hoped that this report would be of value to the struggle for liberation in South Africa.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Sons and Daughters of Africa, the South African Delegation was honoured to represent the struggling peoples of South Africa and this report presents its efforts to serve the cause of the Democracy-loving peoples of South Africa.

The South African Delegation wishes to thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sons and Daughters of Africa for the singular honour which was bestowed upon it and presents a gift to the African National Congress from the youth of the world as a token of their solidarity and friendship with the African people.

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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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