

AARD 1

NATIONAL GENERAL COUNCIL

5, 6, 7 APRIL 1985

POINTS FROM THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS:-

serious crisis in our ranks - we must break down indiscipline like syndicalism - we must build unity amongst regions and factions. The UDF has successfully mobilised against the new constitution and the Kooishof Bills. We have ^{seen} the state strategy of co-optation and repression. The UDF has done the following: destroyed the myths of the homelands; made Black local Authorities unworkable; and destroyed the credibility of the Tricameral system.

dividing line between our people and our enemy shifts continuously. We must, therefore, win others over to our struggle and draw them into positions of support.

- In the East Cape, cooption of unions failed. There are also worker organisations who sincerely discourage workers from the broader struggle. Yet, these same workers face various problems in communities.
- Weaknesses of UDF: lack capacity to build organisations based on issues; through inadequate training, our activists lack clarity and, therefore, have different conceptions; and we need to improve on decision-making so that we have a balance between participation and quick response.

- Road Ahead: 'to challenge' and 'to organise' must take on the state, frustrate it in its attempts. Where challenges are spontaneous, we must learn to give coherence and direction to them. We must understand the weak links of the apartheid chain so that we challenge them.

Main Tasks: ① Understand our country and the world; ② Define stage of struggle - organise and challenge; ③ Education of our organisation members; ④ Broaden the front - get our roots to our people; ⑤ Develop experienced

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B. THE SECRETARIAL REPORT:-

(refers to hand-out with p.c.-NGC package).

C. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONS:-

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ISMAIL AV08 & ASSOCIATES

1. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS:-

Points of consensus: Maintain and initiate such relations to advance struggle against apartheid. Discussion on international relations should be done. We must not be used by groups like CIA. Such International contact not be at expense of internal and regional relations. Points of difference: imperialism's goals are incompatible with ours. Our struggle could be subverted. What advances the struggle is OK, but we must maintain our independence.

2. EDUCATIONAL CRISIS:-

Issues: Democratic representation at schools, linked to social representation. Rejection of the prefect system. Poor schooling conditions. Victimisation of progressive teachers and pupils.... Role of the UDF: could form co-ordinating structures of student bodies (even parents and teachers) without decision-making power. UDF must try to organise teachers. Education Charter campaign: we must popularise it - take it all over SA. Fight SADF in schools.

3. ORGANISATION:-

Limitations to development of UDF: insufficient analysis, therefore, inadequate strategies; absence of clear programmes; overstressing UDF officials; no overall strategy to draw in non-affiliates; no clear demands in SA campaigns; and too much high-profile activity at expense of grassroots. How to minimise conflict in UDF: need for ongoing training nationally co-ordinated - may cause uniform approach. Develop code of conduct to ensure constructive debate and criticism. Need for national forums to debate and discuss. Restructuring: need to incorporate specific portfolios in REC's. National Working Committee to ensure development and shifting terrain of struggle.

4. BLACK LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND TRICAMERAL PARLIAMENT:-

on from the gains and awareness of the BIA campaign.
Problems which face us: repression and lack of venues. Also need for alternative - replace BIA with community organisations. But there is a need to develop fuller concept of the community organisation - we must work so that these organisations are recognised eg. the education minister was forced to liaise with community organisations.

The total destruction of BIA is a priority. In white communities, whites must be shown uselessness of parliamentary structure. Resist Formulate our response to Black Forum. Establish People's Judicial Commission to record crimes of collaborators.

5. REPRESSION:-

Aimed at killing extra-parliamentary opposition to create space for opponents to operate. Need for a counter campaign - we must work in people and groups like churches. We must also mount international pressure around repression. Activists must be disciplined and security-conscious. Build organisations at various levels to ensure that no complete smashing of the NSF takes place. Activities must not be localised - they must be widespread eg. stayaways. Our unity in such cases will stretch the state's defence. People must know their legal rights, detainees must take action to secure rights. Tailed and detained must be freed - this is a demand. Our people must understand why the state acts in this way.

6. THE WORKING CLASS:-

USF and non-USF unions: talk to members / shop-stewards about the USF. Address worker issues in the community - our programmes must be appropriate to workers. But there is also a need to work formally with officials.

USF and unemployment: the unemployed workers must be organised around issues like Unemployment Funds (UIF), initiatives, things like bulk-buying in communities, self-help

economy which causes this must be explained.

Working Class leadership: we must develop this by: providing opportunities for workers to express themselves in our meetings; to encourage union members to play an active role in USF; by distributing skills to workers; and by officials and activists USF having a working class character to their conduct. The new federation: we must encourage a working relationship between USF and federation - establish USF labour sub-committee. 'USF unions' should not form own federation but should work towards joining this federation.

7. BANTUSTANS, RURAL AREAS AND FORCED REMOVALS:-

Need for major anti-bantustan campaign to fight problems there and to promote national unity.

Politicisation of people through the linking of bantustans and things like pass laws.

Forced removals: to continue such campaigns, generate publicity around it, USF volunteers must show their support threatened communities. We must build relationships with organisations dealing specifically with Forced Removals.

Rural areas: need for full-time organisers. Also address rural areas through politicisation and organisation of migrant workers. People here must be educated about resistance, but there is also need to focus press attention so as to lend protection. Need for central contact between rural areas.

8. COST OF LIVING: see resolution.

9. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:-

Nat. Pres: Archie Grumede, Aluthia Sibusu.
Exec. Chairperson: Curnick Ndlovu.
Gen. Sec: Popo Molefe.
Publicity: 'Terror' Mkhonta

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS:-

Z. Malindi, Trevor Mamele (W)
Steve Tshwet, Rev. U. Stofile (B)
Y. Mhahamed, Rev. Yumtha (N)
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