

# CALL FOR UNITED FRONT IN BASUTOLAND



Josiel Lefela

## Lekhotla la Bafo Takes the Lead

**MASERU.**  
A CALL for the formation of a broad National Liberation Front which would unite all parties in a demand for the immediate restoration of Basutoland's independence and sovereignty has been issued by Mr. Josiel Lefela, leader of the organisation Lekhotla la Bafo.

Mr. Lefela is the grand old man of Basutoland politics. Since the foundation of Lekhotla la Bafo in 1918, this organisation under his leadership has carried on a consistently progressive struggle against imperialism.

Mr. Lefela has been jailed several times in the course of the struggle. He was detained throughout the second world war and was jailed for 9 months in 1955 for sedition. He rejected the Cowen constitution as a fraud and boy-

cotted the elections held under it. "The people of Lesotho (Basutoland) stand face to face with a grave crisis," he says in his statement.

"The British government, which has broken all the pledges made to our father Moshoeshe the Great, is preparing to foist another constitutional farce on our country. Once more the imperial government is acting in complete defiance of solemn agreements entered into with it by the founder of our nation—Moshoeshe.

"The pretence is being carried on of regarding Lesotho as a colony which is developing towards self-government. Whereas in truth and in fact Lesotho is an independent state which sought and entered into an alliance with Great Britain under definite conditions which have been ignored.

### DIVISIONS

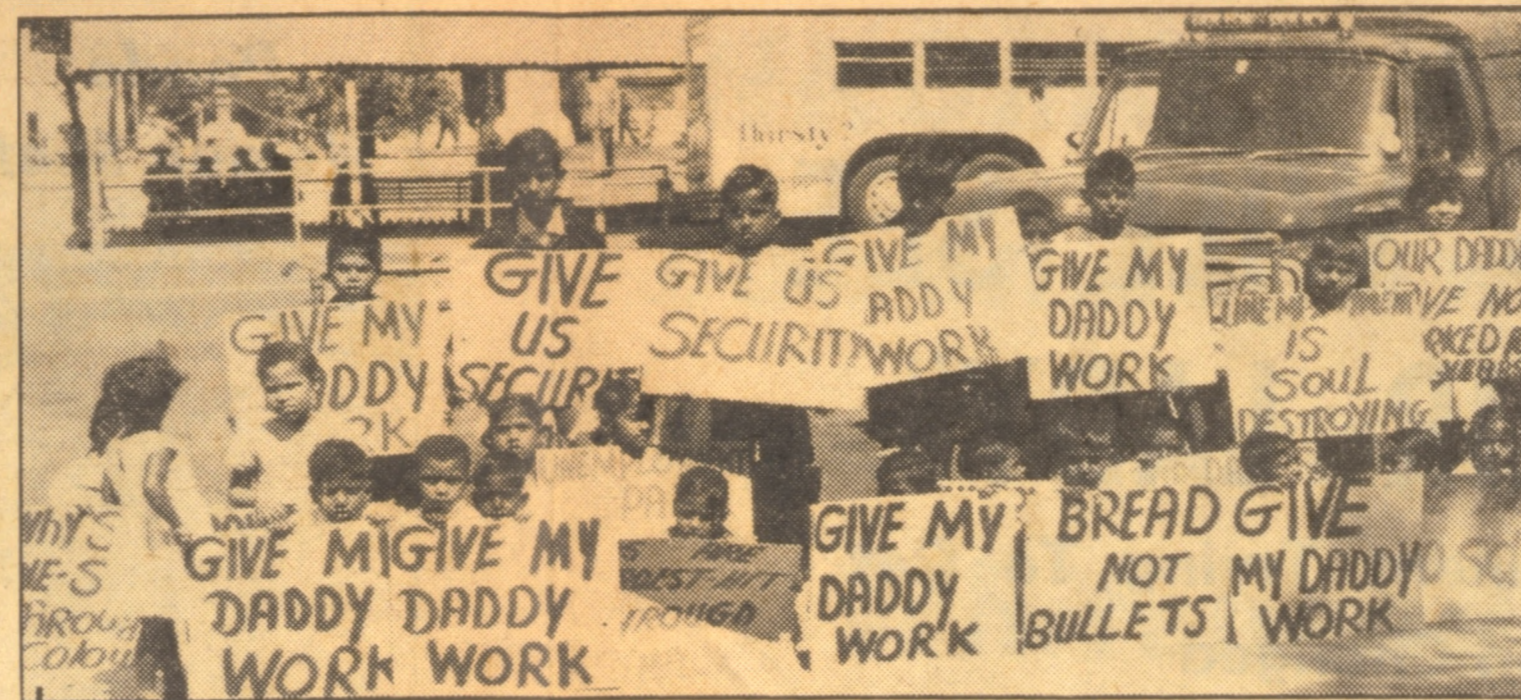
"To make matters worse the Basotho have never been so divided. Petty political wrangling and strife has taken the place of serious political thought for the future of our small country. Ambitions for Cabinet positions in governments formed under the auspices of the British government have taken the place of a struggle for the restoration of an independence and sovereignty which has always been our right legally and morally.

"Whilst no one can deny the right of people at a certain stage in history forming numerous parties representing every shade of political opinion the emergency in which we are demands that a machinery for ensuring the maximum unity of the nation is vital.

"Such a unity can be achieved by the creation of a broad National Liberation Front. Such a front should properly unite all parties and organisations, trade

unions, all religious movements, chiefs and other prominent personalities, peasants and intellectuals, in a demand for immediate restoration of our independence and sovereignty.

"The Lekhotla la Bafo calls on the people of Lesotho who are aware of its consistent record of struggle to participate in all work designed to lead to the formation of a Front of National Liberation uniting the whole nation irrespective of ideology or position."



## "GIVE MY DADDY WORK"

A section of the children who took part in the Durban demonstration against unemployment last week. Immediately behind them is a police van which rushed on to the scene minutes after the demonstration began and disgorged a load of policemen.

# SWAPO OPPOSED TO "ONE PARTY" PLAN

## Latest Developments in S.W.A. Unity Talks

NEW YORK.

ON the eve of the United Nations discussions on the South West Africa issue, the negotiations which were in progress for forming one all-in organisation to represent the people of South West Africa appear to have broken down.

The matter was discussed at a meeting held at United Nations Headquarters recently between Messrs Kuhangua and Kerina, the Rev. Marcus Kooper and Mr. J. Kozonguizi.

The SWAPO secretary, Mr. Kuhangua, made it clear that SWAPO was not in favour of the formation of one party at this stage, but stood by the Accra declaration issued last June by Messrs Kozonguizi and Sam Nujoma as President of SWANU and SWAPO respectively calling for positive steps to be taken towards unity between the two organisations.

### CONSULTATION

The Accra declaration stated: "We do not propose interference

with the respective policies and identities of organisations except in so far as the two organisations together may determine what aspects of policies or programme can be commonly pursued or implemented."

The agreement envisaged the creation of a central consultative committee consisting of the members of the national executive committees of the two organisations with headquarters in Windhoek and an external consultative committee of representatives of the two organisations abroad which would take its instructions from the central consultative committee in Windhoek.

While the Accra recommendations were still under discussion, more far-reaching proposals for the creation of one organisation were circulated in SWANU and SWAPO circles. (See New Age, August 9, 1962.)

At the New York talks Dr. Kerina, chairman of SWAPO, indicated that he stood by the "one party" idea as a matter of principle and was not prepared to compromise on that. He was warned by Mr. Kuhangua, however, that if he persisted with the "one party" move he might be asked to resign from SWAPO.

### SW.A.N.U. VIEW

Mr. Kozonguizi said that since SWAPO was opposed to the idea of one party at this stage, there was obviously no point in SWANU pursuing the matter any further.

It is expected that talks aimed at implementing the Accra recommendations may be held during the present UN General Assembly session, when the South West Africa issue is due to come up again for discussion.

### CARPIO MISSION

There has been some difference of approach between SWAPO and SWANU on the Carpio mission, which is likely to form the centrepiece of the UN debate on South West Africa.

SWANU protested against the decision of Carpio and de Alva to visit South West Africa and the Republic on the terms laid down by Verwoerd, feeling that this was a violation of the mandate placed upon them by the UN.

Noting the fiasco of the Carpio mission, the feeling in SWANU circles is that the Pretoria com-

unique should be refuted point by point by reaffirming the facts of the situation in South West Africa and the basis thus be laid for effective UN intervention in the territory. The question as to whether Carpio or de Alva or South Africa was responsible for the communique would thus become irrelevant.

Dr. Kerina, however, has taken a stand in defence of Carpio and before the UN Committee of 17 launched an open attack on Miss Yarrow and Mr. Barendsen, the UN officials who accompanied Carpio and de Alva on their tour, implying that they were responsible for the drafting of the Pretoria communique.

FOOTNOTE: In a message just received, Dr. Kerina announces his resignation as chairman of SWAPO "in the interest of complete national unity through one Pan-Africanist revolutionary party in our country." He has also resigned his membership of SWAPO.

Dr. Kerina says he will continue "nationalist activities for the freedom of our country as before the establishment of political organisations in South West Africa."

## Special Branch Man Bombed In P.E.

PORT ELIZABETH.

On Tuesday night last week an incendiary bomb exploded in the house of Det.-Sgt. N. Sogoni of the Special Branch.

As a result of the explosion more than 20 window panes were blown out, and a fire started. It was extinguished as it began to set alight the furniture. Following the incident police activity has been considerably stepped up in New Brighton.

### AND BOMBS IN BEERHALLS

Sabotage has been increasing in the Port Elizabeth area in the last few days. The new beerhalls and bottle stores that are being erected in New Brighton and Zakele have been the main target.

Incendiary bombs seem to have been the chief means used to start fires in all the cases and the woodwork has been burnt.

The new beerhalls are going up in flames even before they have been opened for use. Beerhalls in the Red Location, New Brighton, and at Seyisi, Zakele, have been burnt.

# IMVO BOUGHT OUT BY THE NATS

JOHANNESBURG.

IMVO, the oldest African newspaper in South Africa, started in the Transkei by the late Professor Jabavu, has been bought out by the Nationalist Afrikaanse Pers Bepker.

Mr. Marius Jooste, APB's managing director, confirmed the take-over of the paper and the printing press Thanda, but when asked about the take-over price and whether the policy of the paper would be changed said: "I'm not prepared to answer any other questions about the matter except that we have taken over the concern."

(Mr. Jooste is one of the 15 trustees—others are Dr. Verwoerd and three other Cabinet members—of the new Dagbreek Trust which has tightened Nationalist control of Die Naderland and Dagbreek. He is also chairman of the Newspaper Press Union and attended the first meeting of the Press Board appointed by the Union to administer the press' "voluntary code of conduct.")

Once the voice of independent Africans, IMVO has slid over the years, first into the hands of the Paver chain of African papers controlled by the Argus company, and now into the hands of the Nationalists trying to chaperone the Transkei into the lap of the Government.

## AFRICA Bomb Attacks (1)

# NKRUMAH CHALLENGED BY ANTI-SOCIALIST ELEMENTS

PRESIDENT NKRUMAH said recently in Accra that the recent attack on his life showed how desperate the "enemies of the State" in Ghana were.

He warned "all believers in violence" that his Government would not shirk its responsibility to bring about a Socialist revolution in Ghana.

In a review of the past year—read to Parliament by Mr. Kofi Bako, Leader of the House—Dr. Nkrumah also warned of "enemies of the State," culminating in the attack on his life.

Dr. Nkrumah said Ghana had proposed that an African Common Market be estab-

lished "as an alternative to the European Common Market."

"Action has been initiated to consult other African States on this matter," he added.

On the national economy the President said that the first comprehensive Seven-Year Plan, due to begin next January, "will completely transform our economy and accelerate industrialisation."

The Agriculture Ministry was to undertake the organisation of large-scale farming and the newly-formed State Farms Division had already achieved "spectacular progress."

Ghana's Interior Minister, Mr. Boateng, said that a new Bill prescribing the death penalty for unlawful possession of arms was aimed at the "complete extermination of those who used them for subversive activities."



## EUROPE Bomb Attacks (2)

# DE GAULLE FACES O.A.S.

WITH the end of the war in Algeria, it was widely assumed that the right-wing terrorist organisation the OAS had ceased to exist as a political force. This illusion was finally destroyed only by the recent attempt on de Gaulle's life. Far from having collapsed, the OAS is now a greater threat than before to the political institutions of France.

How was it, it is asked, that the OAS could establish its organisation so quickly in France? The answer to this question depends on a number of facts

Firstly, the streams of settler-refugees from Algeria were allowed to enter France without any attempt being made to prevent OAS commandos mixing with them and thus getting into France with large supplies of arms. IN THIS WAY THE ORGANISATION HAS BEEN TRANSPORTED BODILY ACROSS THE MEDITERRANEAN AND ARRIVED IN CONTACT IN FRANCE.

Secondly, the "pied-noirs," as the settlers are called, have not been absorbed into French society. Cherishing hopes of returning to Algeria, they are clustered in tight communities in the South of France, unwilling to move to the colder climate of the North. They compete with the local inhabitants for jobs and accommodation and their arrogance makes them thoroughly disliked. Together with the Poujadists who have long favoured a more authoritarian form of government, they form the political base from which the OAS draws its wider support.

Thirdly, a large number of policemen and civil servants from the Administration in Algeria have been brought back to France and absorbed into the metropolitan civil service. Many of these men are supporters of the OAS. Also units of the Army which have been serving in Algeria have been brought back to France; many of these units consist of professional soldiers who support the OAS to a man.

In spite of these facts it is, however, perfectly clear that the OAS could have been crushed long ago if the government had used all the means at its disposal. Besides the failure to stop OAS supporters from entering France, the following facts are noteworthy:

- Vast OAS funds, accumulated from numerous bank robberies in Algeria, have been deposited in European banks.

- No attempt has been made by the French Government to block these accounts.

- Charges pending against OAS terrorists in Algeria have now been dropped though, in many cases, the men are known to be in France.

- No pressure has been put on France's allies—West Germany, Italy and Belgium—to stop the activities of OAS groups on their territory and, finally

- OAS supporters in the French Assembly have

been allowed to continue their propaganda whereby they exploit successes obtained by the terrorists.

### PERSONAL DICTATORSHIP

France today is a dictatorship of personal power: the State is de Gaulle. What prevents de Gaulle from crushing the OAS before they succeed in killing him? To understand this it is necessary to understand de Gaulle's role in French politics.

De Gaulle came to power as a result of a political stale-mate. The parties of the Left which, if one includes the Social Democrats, represent the majority of Frenchmen, wanted to end the Algerian war. But the Paris Government's authority over the army was not strong enough for it to bring an end to the fighting; as prime ministers followed one another in rapid succession the situation grew worse. Then the army made its bid for power in France and de Gaulle appeared to be the only person able to prevent a civil war. Supported by the army, he was accepted by most of the politicians who felt they had no choice in the matter.

### DISAPPOINTED BOTH SIDES

Each side expected something different from him, but he disappointed them both. After consolidating his power he rapidly swung round on the Algerian question. Brought to power as the saviour of Algérie française, he made peace with the FLN.

But a new constitution and a series of amendments deprived the Assembly of power. So the President obtained absolute power; but this will only last as long as the balance between Left and Right continues.

A decisive weakening of the forces of the Right would give the democratic parties their chance to press for the return of parliamentary government. So de Gaulle feels he must tread carefully in dealing with his opponents on the Right.

THE OBJECT OF THE MORE SOPHISTICATED ELEMENTS IN THE O.A.S. HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE CONQUEST OF POWER IN METROPOLITAN FRANCE. Algeria was their springboard just as Morocco was Franco's. If the present stalemate in French politics was broken the French ruling class might give its full support to the OAS out of fear of a working-class bid for power. The verdict in Salan's trial shows the sympathy for the OAS in the ruling circles of France. The Court failed to impose the death sentence though Salan was proved guilty of treason and inspiring the murder of hundreds of innocent people.

This is the OAS's chance. And the means of forcing such a crisis? The assassination of de Gaulle!

Parallels in Germany of the '20s and '30s come easily to mind: a strong working class movement facing a small group of financiers and industrialists; the army bitter at a defeat which they believe to have been a betrayal, and parliament losing prestige as its powerlessness becomes apparent.

This is fertile soil for Fascism. But times have changed since Hitler, and millions of Frenchmen are on their guard.

# "WE NEED THAT 'SURPLUS' FOOD"

## Farm Workers Condemn Wanton Destruction

JOHANNESBURG.

THE first annual meeting of the Farm, Plantation and Allied Workers' Union expressed its utter condemnation of the destruction of food.

Farm workers especially earn wages far below subsistence level, they said. If they could pay for the meat, fruit, eggs, milk and other food produced on farms there would be no surpluses. "The consumer market is here in South Africa. The people must be paid living wages."

A living wage for farm workers, said the meeting, was not less than R2 a day for workers working on a cash basis and R1 for those on a tash and land basis, where not less than five morgen of land was granted.

All farm workers should get 12 days paid sick leave a year, three weeks annual leave with pay, be eligible for unemployment insurance and accident compensation.

### SECURITY

Farm workers must also be granted security of tenure. "Innumerable cases have come to our attention of workers engaged on a six month work contract for a farmer being told after the six months that they are to work for the farmer for the full year, with no extra pay and no chance to work their own land."

The meeting also insisted that no child under the age of 15 years should be employed on a farm.

The new union will try to get the South African Agricultural Union to meet a farm workers' deputation to discuss wages, conditions of work and general policy.

Among the areas represented at this first conference were Bethal, Standerton, Morgenzen, Kinross, Middelberg; and delegates from the Northern Cape and the Natal sugar fields.

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"And as the Shop Steward rounded the corner with the wage claim Sir Jasper nipped smartly down the fire escape. Seeing a half open window..."

## INDIAN GIRL WINS DURBAN CONTEST



Race relations got a shot in the arm from an unexpected source in Durban last weekend. This was at the Bolton Hall where an Indian girl was elected the new "Miss Durban." This was the first time an Indian took part in these normally all-African contests.

The lucky lassie, Joyce Simons (23) from Clairwood, will represent Durban in the forthcoming "Miss South Africa" finals to be held in Johannesburg soon.

Joyce received a standing ovation from the predomi-

nantly African audience in the hall. Billed number 13 in the line-up of entrants (she was the only non-African) she quickly waltzed her way into everyone's heart.

Runners-up were Una Gasa a Lamontville nurse who came third, and Joyce Dhlamini a school principal from Kwa Mashu who came second, both seen in the above photo kissing Joyce, the winner of the competition.

A striking feature of the contest was the happy spirit between winners and losers.

### Mandela Meeting in Durban

DURBAN.

Several thousand leaflets explaining the role of people's hero Nelson Mandela and giving a brief account of his life have been distributed in Durban in preparation for a mass meeting to be held at the Congress Square this Saturday, September 29, at 2.30 p.m.

The meeting which is being organised by the Youth Action Committee will be addressed by speakers from the various Congresses and other leaders.

In a statement to New Age, the Youth Action Committee states that Nelson Mandela is the hero of the youth of South Africa.

"He has blazed a trail which no other leader had taken in this country and we want to do all we can to defend our champion.

"No stone must be left unturned in rallying the widest possible support for this great son of Africa," ends the statement.

## WOMAN FELL INTO VAT OF BOILING MARMALADE

JOHANNESBURG

AUDREY Sibayi, 31-year-old mother of two children, died in the Coronation Hospital on Wednesday, September 12, 1962, after falling into a vat containing boiling hot marmalade jam.

She was employed at Messrs. H. Jones & Company, Industria, Johannesburg, as a jam stirrer and on the day of the accident, was standing on top of a lug box stirring the jam when she lost her balance and fell into the vat. According to worker's reports, her whole body except for her head was immersed in the jam.

When the workers heard the news of her death at the Corona-

## Thanks To Equity

# AFRICANS WILL SEE "MY FAIR LADY"

## Theatre Management Trying To Get Decision Changed

JOHANNESBURG.

WHITE theatre management in South Africa is to try to get British Equity, the trade union of Britain's entertainment world, to change its strong resolution against the colour bar in South African theatre.

This attempt to make Equity back-pedal will be tried at a time when the theatre colour bar has taken severe knocks. Latest victory in the campaign to open the doors to plays, musicals, opera and ballet to all, regardless of colour, is the decision by African Consolidated Theatres that "My Fair Lady" will play one night a week to Non-Whites in the former White stronghold in Commissioner Street, the Empire Theatre.

African Theatres has not yet announced this decision but coming from the Big Business pillar of the entertainment world, it is a significant concession—and probably the only terms on which the cast of "My Fair Lady" could be got to play in South Africa.

### ARRANGEMENT

The arrangement to admit Non-Whites to performances as often as the demand warrants was negotiated by African Consolidated Theatres with Equity just before their non-segregation resolution was passed.

Empire Theatre performances for Non-Whites will probably be arranged when the season for this musical has been in swing for some little while.

The Equity resolution states that its members will not play in South Africa except to multi-racial audiences at all venues.

The White theatre managements want the stand watered down to permit theatre to be presented to segregated audiences in Johannesburg—though the original resolution would still apply in Durban,

Port Elizabeth and Cape Town—on the grounds that there are no suitable halls for non-segregated performances in the largest city in South Africa.

Miss Margaret Webster, the

visiting producer who has now concluded her second long producing stint in South Africa, will on her return to England convey the case of the theatre managements to Equity.

## But

# APARTHEID FORCED ON UNION ARTISTS' SHOW

JOHANNESBURG.

UNION Artists have had the apartheid curtain dropped on their new production—"Satch" Masinga's "Back in your own Backyard."

The management of the Bantu Social Centre stepped in after two days of "open" booking to tell the producers that Whites would have to be excluded from the show.

This was after booking had already run for two days—open to all. It is clear that apartheid is

being forced on our artists in spite of all their efforts to break the theatre colour-bar. The "friends" of the Non-Whites who claim to be anxious to help us—but on condition that we accept apartheid—have been exposed again.

Those who patronize the B.M.S.C. should make their protests known in no uncertain manner and demand that services should be provided for us ON OUR OWN TERMS.

As a result of this ruling, "Back in your Backyard" will open at the B.M.S.C. and then go to the Selbourne Hall later for racially-segregated nights.

## JEWISH AUTHORS IN SOVIET UNION

UNKNOWN works by many Jewish authors are to be published in the Soviet Union shortly by the Yiddish literary magazine "Soviet Homeland."

The latest issue just off the press announces it has received "valuable unpublished manuscripts" of novelist Der Nister, poets Itsik Pfeffer, David Goffstein and Peretz Markish.

Other names mentioned are Aaron Krushnyerov, Zelik Axelrod, Moisha Litvakov, Samuil Galkin, Mira Henkin and Samuil Pers.

"The Soviet public pays special attention to the works of writers who perished in the years of the Stalin cult," says Soviet Homeland.

Within the past year, it notes, the State Publishing House has issued poems of Peretz Markish (two volumes) and David Goffstein in Russian editions of 30,000 copies each, and a 75,000 two-volume edition of David Bergelson's novel "At the Dnieper."

Due to appear shortly are a two-volume edition of Der Nister's novel "The Mishber Family," poems by Issy Harik and critical essays by Ezekiel Dobrushin and Yashi Bronstein.

"Many books have already been published in Yiddish

and many more are to come," Soviet Homeland editor Aaron Vergelis has stated.

These include classic Yiddish authors Mendele and Scholem Aleichem as well as Bergelson, Markish and Osher Schwartzman, the first Soviet Yiddish poet, a Red Army cavalryman killed in action in 1919.

The Yiddish-language magazine, now in its second year of publication by the Soviet Writers' Union, gives much space to the work of Yiddish authors who were executed in the Stalin period, said Vergelis.

"It is a question of duty and conscience," he stated, adding that those writers were Soviet patriots.

In their lifetime they had been bitterly attacked by those very circles in the West who were now trying to exploit their tragic deaths for anti-Soviet speculation.

"They say they love those writers . . . they don't! They say we ignore them . . . we don't!" declared Vergelis, himself a poet.

"How can I forget those great poets Markish and Pfeffer! I am their pupil, they were my teachers. Not only Yiddish writers love and remember them, but all Soviet writers."

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