AFRICANS SPURN NAT. OFFER

“We Don’t Want Crumbs”

—Chief A. J. Lutuli

“The African people do not want crumbs. They demand what is their rightful heritage, in the land of their birth, and this demand is, and always will be—back from tribalism: forward to non-racial democracy.”

That is the answer of the African people to Verwoerd’s plan for ‘self-government’ for the Transkei, as expressed by Chief A. J. Lutuli in a hard-hitting statement made to New Age this week.

We print below the full text of his statement:

The so-called independence plan in respect of the Transkei envisaged by the Verwoerd cabinet is a tragic delusion, which is doomed to failure. It is being put forward not only as a counter to the widespread opposition to apartheid, but to divide the African people who are unanimous in their opposition to Nationalist policies into separate tribal entities fighting each other.

If Dr. Verwoerd hopes to stop international criticism and divide our people by this fraudulent plan, then I am afraid that he will once again be disillusioned. The forces of progress all over the world, and more particularly in Africa, will accept nothing less than complete democracy for all in South Africa.

Let us see what this plan really is. What does it offer? This plan takes the country back to the shapely form of twenty separate tribalism which in this twentieth century is fast breaking down. Under this plan the African people of the Transkei are being given even less power than that enjoyed by a provincial councillor. Talk of a black Prime Minister, a black Cabinet and a black Parliament are just so many meaningless words.

No black Prime Minister of any so-called independent state will be free from arrest under the pass laws or any of the scores of discriminatory legislation that clutter up our Statute.
It is with great apprehension that we approach this new phase in the deal between the Government and the African. We express our fear and demand that the body chosen by no one but the African people is capable of running a state along modern lines. The African people outside the reserves, those who form the majority of the population, will not be slow in taking advantage of their opportunity. The majority of the population, will not be slow in taking advantage of their opportunity. The government's intentions, and hope that the people of the Transkei will be pushed forward with their struggle, is a travesty of the real thing and a mockery of the aspirations of the people. It is a direct consequence of the merciless hammering which the African people are capable of running a state along modern lines. The African people are capable of running a state along modern lines. The African people are capable of running a state along modern lines.
WHY TRANSKEI CHOSEN

"How can there be Freedom based on Racialism?"

— Dr. Naicker

PLAN DOOMED TO FAILURE

— Dr. Naicker

ANC issues Statement

C.O.D. Statement says that

Govt. Ignores Main Problem

Prime Minister of the Transkei

Independence

(Continued from page 1)

The falsity of this plan is even more evident when one knows that even before these areas are granted this so-called independence, they would be financial bankruptcies. Despite assurances that certain monies will be available, it is clear that which will be available and the amount available, clearly indicate that no state will be satisfied with the small or no matter how limited the scope of its activities could exist on such minuscule income.

NO SURPRISE. It is no surprise that certain chiefs and tribesmen have already welcomed the plan. They have, by their actions in the past, shown that they are prepared to support the Government in all its plans because of certain benefits they receive by their support. Those chiefs and headmen who have opposed the Government in its policies of apartheid, whose programme are either in jail or have been deported.

SIGNIFICANT. It is clear that the Transkei has been chosen as the first area for this futile experiment. Since the beginning of 1960 we have witnessed one of the most determined and courageous struggles ever carried out in recent times by a dis­franchised and unarmed community against the Government.

Even today, on the eve of achieving this so-called independence, the Afri­cans at their historic Pietermaritzburg Conference held last year, de­manded a National Convention representing every section of the South African population with sovereign rights to draw up a non­racial constitution for our country. THIS IS, TO MY MIND, THE ONLY SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS THAT FACE US, AND ANYTHING LESS IS UNACCEPTABLE.

There is much that is obscure in the growing relation of the people, international pressure and developments elsewhere in the world which Verwoerd hopes to lessen international pressures against this country by this spurious apolo­gy for freedom and independence. But he is destined to failure.

Dealing with the contemptuous remark made in the course of Dr. Verwoerd's speech referring to the African people at their historic Pietermaritzburg Conference held last year, dem­anded a National Convention representing every section of the South African population with sovereign rights to draw up a non-racial constitution for our country. THIS IS, TO MY MIND, THE ONLY SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS THAT FACE US, AND ANYTHING LESS IS UNACCEPTABLE. Thus, we do not oppose the ethnic grouping which is the aim of Dr. Verwoerd's plans. We oppose the complete economic depen­dence and subjugation of the Transkei and it is a blight.

The demand of the African people, concludes the statement, "can no longer await the results of selfish experiments by this Govern­ment. For us, 1962 is a year of decision, and mass attacks on the citadel of White domination. We propose to achieve our objective whatever barriers the Government might erect.

"We reject the scheme but we are fully aware that however objection­able it may be, it is a crack in the granite wall—as a result of our in­cessant pounding. This is a signal for us to go over to an ever more determined offensive to take advan­tage of the weaknesses in the enemy camp."

Prime Minister of the Transkei

THE ONLY SOLUTION TO SOUTH AFRICA'S PROBLEMS

The African people call for independence and self-government in an area which is economically dependent on the country, and the analogy be­tween the proposed scheme and Africa's former colonial territories is fraudulent, because in none of those territories did the former colo­nialists partition the country and reserve to themselves its largest and wealthiest portion.

Verwoerd's scheme would conti­nue the complete economic depen­dence and subjugation of the Transkei and it is a blight.

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