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Natal Crisis Special Issue March 21, 1994

Congress Militant

Price 50c
[Solidarity price R1]

Paper of the Marxist Workers' Tendency of the ANC

For free and fair elections in Natal

Buthelezi must go !

On April 27 millions of oppressed people are going to vote for the first time in their lives. They will vote for freedom, peace and a better life for all.

But in the areas of Natal/KwaZulu where Buthelezi and his warlords are still in control many people fear that their ballot papers could become death warrants.

Inkatha wants to stop the election at all costs. We cannot accept that. Buthelezi must not be permitted to stand in the way of the determination of ordinary people to vote. The election will go ahead on April 27 - and the Zulu masses must vote.

Salute the masses of Bophuthatswana

The revolution against Mangope in Bophuthatswana was a brilliant display of the power of the working people. It was an inspiration to the oppressed in every corner of South Africa. It demonstrated the will of workers, women and youth to cast their vote in the April 27 election and change society.

It showed what workers' power can do in action to bring these tin-pot dictators down to size. Without the support of De Klerk and the NP, Mangope and the AWB were shown to be almost powerless.

The people of Bop shattered the so-called Freedom

Alliance, weakened the AWB, and put the fate of the masses in Natal on top of the political agenda.

Now the whole ruling class are scared of a similar mass movement developing against Buthelezi's corrupt regime.

Cosatu Vice-President, John Nkadimeng, was right to tell workers at Cosatu's regional congress in Durban that if we could bring down Mangope then we can do the same to Buthelezi.

But a struggle for political freedom in Natal/KwaZulu is more complicated than in Bophuthatswana.

Buthelezi has his own army, the KZP, as well as covert support from high-ranking generals in the SAP/SADF. In the rural areas the chiefs exercise a dictatorship over the people. In addition Buthelezi's use of the Zulu King has caused confusion and uncertainty amongst thousands.

A struggle to remove Buthelezi requires the full support of the ANC-SACP-Cosatu leadership. The masses in Natal need to see solidarity action from millions across the rest of South Africa.

A crisis already exists in Natal. Buthelezi has made his intentions clear. The Alliance leadership must not wait until the last minute to organise support for the people of Natal/KwaZulu.

Plan of action needed now

Solving the crisis in Natal is an urgent responsibility for every ANC, Cosatu and SACP member.

Natal is the second biggest region in South Africa. It will have 40 seats in the next National Assembly. If Buthelezi can stop hundreds of thousands of people from voting he will be able to cut the size of the ANC's majority nationally.

It is wrong to say that the election must go ahead in areas where it is possible, and then Buthelezi will be dealt with after the election.

If Buthelezi is allowed stay in power he will not only cause chaos before the election, but will also organise attacks against the new government after the election.

This will help De Klerk. It will help the bosses. It will make it more difficult for an ANC-majority government to carry out the plans in the Reconstruction and Development Programme.

Now is the time for Buthelezi to be removed! Now is the time to campaign to defend millions of Zulu people and struggle for their right to participate in the April 27 election!

Zulu people want to vote

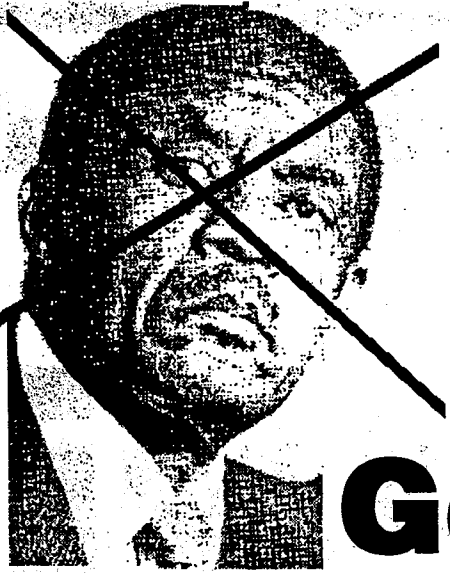
There are 1,3 million voters in Natal. 700,000 of them live in rural areas that are controlled by the Inkatha.

People in these areas want to vote. But are being threatened daily by racist farmers and chiefs who obey Buthelezi's every word. They know that even when Buthelezi promises free political activity Inkatha's real instruction to its followers is to use

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ANC/COSATU/SACP mobil

Mangope:



Gone!

Terre'Blanc



& Gqozo

Going!



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Buthelezi



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