

At the time of the Sophiatown removal, a White official went in apprehension to the home of a Native leader enconced in his hatred of the White man. Today the two work together for understanding between the races.

"I was a Jeugbond leader and found a way for Africa"

THE TIME HAS COME for us White South Africans to think anew about our position in the world of today. We are on the eve of a new year that will prove to be a turning point for the African continent. Some 50-million people will become independent, among them the largest country in Africa—Nigeria, with a population of 35-million. For the first time in history the head of the Communist world will set foot on this continent, when Mr. Khrushchev starts his tour of African states in January next year.

I am rooted in the Afrikaans tradition, born and brought up on a simple farm in the western Free State. My family still live there and whenever I can, I spend time in that part of the country I have learned to love so much.

Jeugbond

LATER as a student at Pretoria University I became chairman of the Werda Jeugbond branch.

I love Afrikanerdom with its culture and tradition. It was basically this love of my people and a desire to find the greatest thing for them that took me to an Assembly for Moral Re-armament in Northern Rhodesia, where I found militant Africans, Afrikaners like myself and English-speaking South Africans who were ready to change and start again to build something different for the whole of Africa.

I realized I had to find an idea valid for White South Africa and equally capable of reaching the hearts of the most militant African leadership. Without this there can be no future, as the minds of the leaders of the non-White millions are made up that their people can only be free once the White man is removed from this country.

New way of life

I FOUND at that Assembly a new way of life being pioneered for the whole world. Men stopped pointing a finger at other races and began to put right what was wrong in themselves and their own people. Men were being changed and unity based on absolute moral standards created in homes, communities and nations, between races, classes and cultures.

Trust was established again and an atmosphere created where men could plan policies based on what is right and not who is right.

I decided to make this task a priority in my life.

by
Nico Ferreira

Test at Sophiatown

MY decision was put to the test at the time of the Sophiatown removal. I was sent as an official from the Bantu Administration Department to help with the removal.

The situation was explosive, as thousands of Africans in Johannesburg were organized to resist the project with force. It could have led to a showdown between White and Black. A large section of the world Press had their representatives there to report a bloody revolution to the world.

In the lead, organizing the African resistance, was a powerful African, P. Q. Vundla, a man of great influence. For years he had given his life to bringing about the day of reckoning with the White people when they would be murdered and pushed into the sea. Black and White nationalism confronting each other had brought South Africa to the verge of revolution.

Morning meeting

I DECIDED to go and meet him at his home in the heart of Western Native Township. Early one morning I set out alone and with a pounding heart knocked at his door.

He let me in but my fears were not allayed when he seated me in a small room with a massive body-guard behind my back. Immediately he launched a bitter attack on everything we White people stand for. I decided not to justify or defend, but admitted to him our failure as a White people to give to Africa an idea superior to Communism and Colonialism. Through this we have conditioned 200-million to stretching out their hand to Communism for help. We wanted the Africans present when they could help us get rich or comfortable, but absent otherwise.

I told him that I was sorry for this and that I longed to take on answering the needs of Africa together with him. I told him how my life had changed and I had found an idea big enough for all men everywhere.

The miracle

A MIRACLE took place that day. Vundla started to lose his bitterness, admitted that his fight was bitter and sectional; and it was the beginning of our united battle to remake the world.

Since that day we have fought shoulder to shoulder to make that a reality. He has had to face bitter opposition from those of his people who demanded a leadership based on hatred and bitterness. His home has been threatened. He himself has been stabbed.

I have had to face misunderstanding from my friends and family. Yet today Vundla is winning through with his people. My family and many friends give me their fullest backing.

Greater than

Communism

WE White people are on the threshold of fulfilling our destiny in Africa. We can offer mankind a superior choice to Communism.

It starts with our basic motive being changed from self-preservation to the building, together with our 200-million fellow Africans, a new continent—a hate-free, fear-free, greed-free Africa, peopled by free men and women.