DEVELOPING LIBERATION HERITAGE

"Memory and Vision: The Delmas Treason

Commemorative

frials

Monument"

A Presentation at Victor Khanye Local Municipality

by Dr. McEdward. Murimbika Nzumbululo H.S.

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"The treason trial[s] must occupy a special place in South African history. That grim predawn raid, deliberately calculated to strike terror into hesitant minds and impress upon the entire nation the determination of the governing clique to stifle all opposition, made one hundred and fifty-six of us, belonging to all the races of our land, into a group of accused facing one of the most serious charges in any legal system."

Chief Luthuli, [1956, Treason Trial]

Why Delmas Commemoration -It's a unique South African Story Context - Flashback -

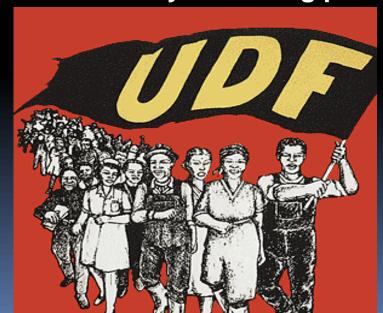
Jan 8 Statement, 1981 - OR Tambo - "call for united front"

Response:

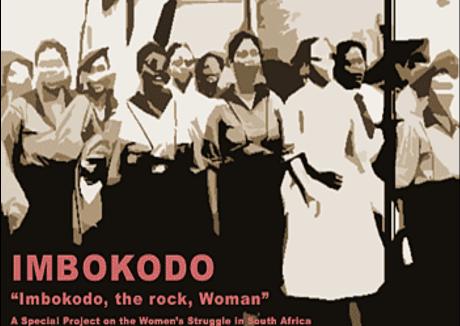
August 20, 1983 UDF was launched in the Rocklands community hall, Mitchell's Plain, Delegates from 565 organisations

10 000 people attended.

Rev. Frank Chikane called the day "a turning point in the struggle for









"Women are the people who are going to relieve us from all this oppression and depression. The rent boycott that is happening in Soweto now is alive because of the women. It is the women who are on the street committees educating the people to stand up and protect each other."- A. Sisulu

UDF Leaders -Albertina Sisulu **Helen Joseph** Victoria Mxenge Barbara Hogan **Laura Pollecutt Emilia Potenza** Julie Frederikse Prescilla Jana Susan Shabangu **Sister Bernard Ncube Dorothy Nyembe Venter Smith**

& many more...

Context - Flashback -

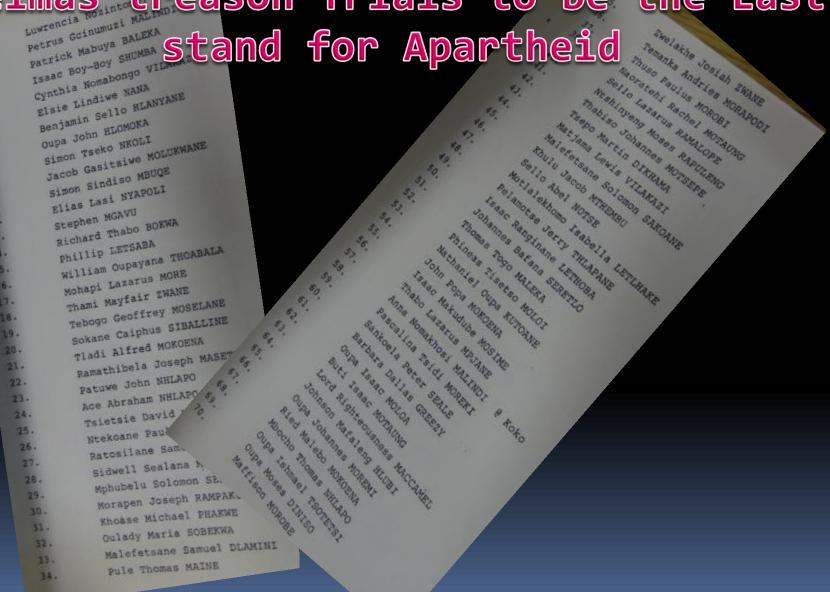
Jan 8 Statement, 1981 - OR Tambo - call for united front



Umkhonto we Sizwe – 1961 ... the fighting arm of the people against the apartheid government... the striking force for liberty, for rights and for their final liberation...

... more deployments into South Africa to continue the military struggle along side mass actions...

The State Responds- Stage Set for Delmas treason Trials to be the Last



Everyone was Guilty Until Proven Innocent-Every Activist in the country was a suspect

Conspiring to conspire

Delmas 22's "Co-conspirators"

The State's own Conspiracy –

Included in the charge sheet were names of 911 people who were said to be co-conspirators but were not formally charged... but key in trial

Baard Francis Balfour Sisulu Albertina **Boesak Allan Nyembe Dorothy** Padayachee Roy **Mahlatsi Rev Mokoena Aubrey** Hlakluku **Thembekile Nyembe Dorothy Oliphant M Motsobane Moses Motubatsi Edward Mselen Thobile** Mthembu Khehla Mthombeno Modise Ramgobin Mewa Ramsamy **Roussos Mike** Sader A H Saloojee R A M Seftel Lisa

Cachalia Firoz Chiba Laloo Chikane Frank **Creecy Barbara Dube Mosie Gumede Achie Nkondo Curtis** Mbuli Mzwake Manuel, T **Dan Patrick David Paul Dibate Ephraim Dube Mosie** Patel NG **Patidar Billy** Patose Jabu Pavlicevic Benita **Phillips Marie** Radebe Radebe Sipho Raditsela Esau Raditsela Dorcas Ramakgula Mrs

Mxenge Victoria Tutu Desmond Webster David Xundu Mcibisi Ramakgula Mrs Mokoena Rina **Meer Fatima Lehoko Modise Lepunya Patrick Letanda Mrs** Lethlaka Edith Raditsela Esau Raditsela Dorcas Ramakgula Mrs Masondo Amos Mtjane Mabomotsi Matsindiso Mazibuko Themba Mbane Tsepo Mbajawa Mrs Mbongo Abram Mboweni Kate Mbuli Mzwake **McCamel Lord**

Unusual case - Organisations listed as coconspirators

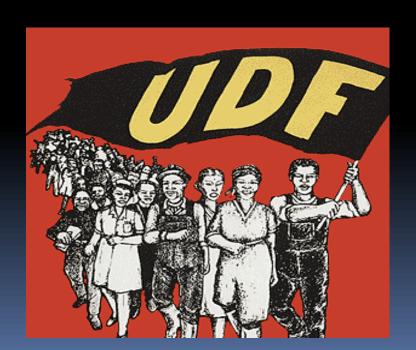
- AFCWU African Food and Canning Workers
 Union
- ANC African National Congress
- AZAPO Azanian Peoples' Organisation
- AZASM Azanian Students' Movement
- AZASO Azanian Students' Organisation
- BSS Black Students' Society
- CCAWUSA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union
- COSAS Congress of South African Students
- COSATU Congress of South African Trade Unions
- CRASCO Cradock Students' Council
- CUSA Council of Unions of South Africa
- DESCOM Detainees' Support Committee
- DHAC Durban Housing Action Committee
- DPSC Detainees' Parents Support Committee
- ECC End Conscription Campaign

- ERAPO East Rand People's Organisation
- FC Freedom Charter
- FCCA Federation of Cape Civic Associations
- FEDSAW Federation of South African Women
- FEDTRAW Federation of Transvaal Women
- GAWU General and Allied Workers Union
- GRACA Grahamstown Community Association
- JODAC Johannesburg Democratic Action Committee
- MSC Million Signature Campaign
- NECC National Education Crisis Committee
- NEUSA National Education Union of South Africa
- NGC National General Council
- NIC Natal Indian Congress
- NUSAS National Union of South African Students
- OAU Organisation of African Unity
- PC President's Council
- RCA Ratanda Civic Association
- RMC Release Mandela Campaign

The Delmas Trials - The Last of their Kind-

Final push

Delmas 22 1985 -1989



Delmas 4 1989

The Delmas 22 -

DELMAS - 22 treason trialists





"Spear of the Nation" - The Delmas 4 1986 - Four MK Operatives

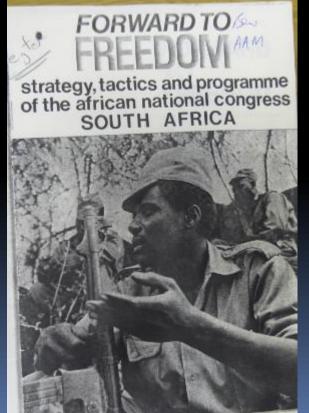


Late Cde. Frans Ting-Ting Masango

- Organisation: Mkhonto we Sizwe and ANC
- Age when arrested: 26 years old. [Now Deceased].

Jabu Obed Masina

- Address: 2953 Rockville, Soweto
- Organisation: Mkhonto we Sizwe and ANC
- Age when arrested: 26 years old.



Neo Griffith Potsane

- Address: Thabo Street 1996, Dube
- Organisation: Mkhonto we Sizwe and ANC.

Joseph Elias Makhura

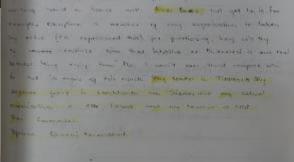
- Address: Shoshanguwe
- Organisation: Mkhonto we Sizwe and ANC

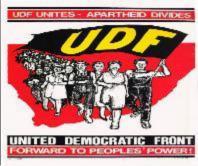
"We are soldiers in a Legitimate Liberation Army ... we do not recognise the jurisdiction of this court..."











- Trials became locally and internationally popular in contradiction of what the State Intended by moving it to Delmas Town
- Mass Protests increased & political activism escalated
- Delmas 22 Trial 1988 moved to Pretoria –Palace of Justice 11 Acquitted and 11 Convicted by end of 1988
- 1989 Cases heard at the Supreme Court of Appeal in Bloemfontein
- Delmas 22 Case dismissed & Delmas 4 Death Sentences commuted to Life
- The arguments presented in both cases contributed to some key principles in the Interim constitution in of 1993



Inspiring the "Hammer and anvil"

Nelson Mandela:

Freedom was to come from a dual approach....

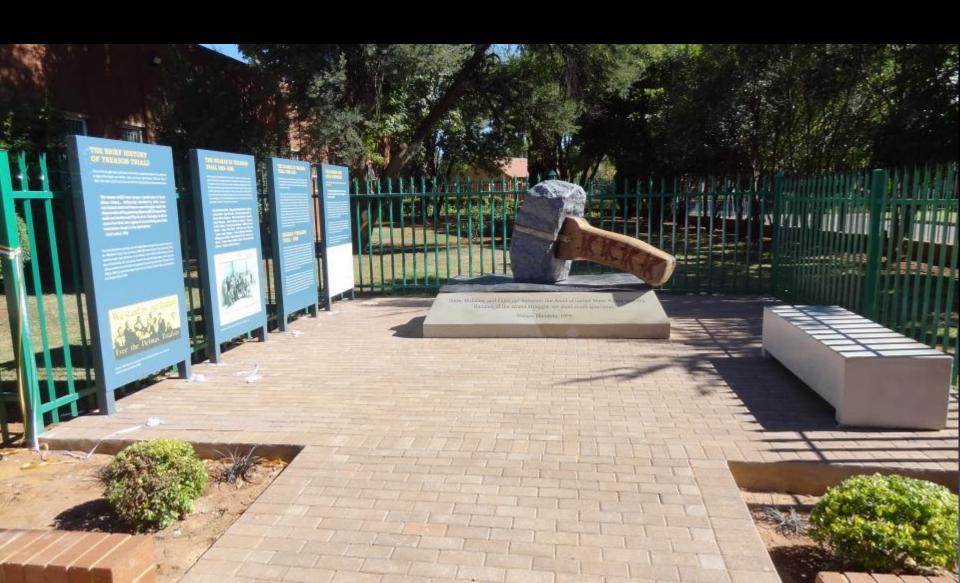


"There is only one way forward, We must and will crush the apartheid regime between the hammer of armed action and the anvil of massed struggle..."

Triumph over Legalised repression – 1956-1989 political trials



The Monument



Information Transfer....



Heritage Liberation Route - The Delmas Magistrate Court Treason Trials Heritage Site ...

1. Educate, by...

Sketching out and explaining the particular events that led to the two Delmas Treason Trials in relation to modern South Africa -democracy is living heritage



2.Info-tertain, by...

Interrogate the elements that makes that particular trials unique in their contribution to Liberation Heritage and the modern South Africa

Inform

8

3. Commemorate...

the struggle stalwarts and the ordinary citizens who laid their life for a democratic and just South Africa

Commemorate



The potential for Liberation Heritage is endless

Thank you for your attention...

A presentation by Nzumbululo Heritage Solutions, M. Murimbika [PhD.], Sept. 2013