

1

- J.F. .... born and where.
- A.Q. I was born in 1942 at Flagstaff (159)
- J.F. At where?
- A.Q. At Flagstaff, at Transkei,
- J.F. And what were your parents doing?
- A.Q. No, my father was a mineworker, and my mother was just a housewife.
- J.F. And what did your grandparents do?
- A.Q. My grandparents - my grandfather was - have got a transport - those wheel wagon - span - with the ox span. Then he was defeated by the railway, then he start another way. He have to buy a truck. First there was one truck - a GMC. Afterwards, then we've got two trucks - a GMC and a Chev, but after all my grandfather passed away, then all this just vanished - I can't tell you how the whatsname went on.
- J.F. And when you were growing up in - you grew up in the Transkei?
- A.Q. Yes.
- J.F. Were you doing some farming also, in a village, or were you not ...?
- A.Q. No, I was at the farming - it's just there wasn't an African whatsname place - that's a rural area.
- J.F. And was your father - where was he a miner - where was he?
- A.Q. My father?
- J.F. Ja.
- A.Q. He was working for the mines - anyway, you have to take - leave the home about a year and some months, afterwards then he come home.
- J.F. And was he in the Rand at all?
- A.Q. Yes, on the Rand.
- J.F. So you couldn't see him the whole year?
- A.Q. I even don't know him, because he passed away while I was a - still young, but I only noticed my mother.
- J.F. And were there any things that made you to be political, when you were growing up - was there talk about the A.N.C. or anything like that?
- A.Q. Oh, yes. I think when I was about fifteen years, ja - that's the time the A.N.C. was busy or was working hard, recruiting everywhere, towards organising everybody to the union - to the A.N.C., and the Transkeian people, they joined the A.N.C. because they were fighting with the whatsnames - there was a proposal of the Government that he have to take our land and cut it in plots, so we have to live in plots, just like as we are living in town. Now the people ....



A.Q. .... they hate that whatname because, before, the Chief he have to give you just an open place, so that you can plough from here to there. You've got a lot of cows and sheep, goats, every so on, but now they have to reduce everything to a small number of cows - about four cows - goats - about five or ten goats, ten sheep, and they hate that bad thing because they used to keep a lot of stock.

Now they have to join the A.N.C. so they can fight together, the Government, so the Government mustn't take their - our land, - that it carry on fast. At 1960 - that's the time that things went upside down, because I remember the day - we were at Inguza Hill - there was a A.G.M. - the people from the - all around there, Transkei...

J.F. A.G.M. of what organisation?

A.Q. Of A.N.C. - some they came with buses, truck, some with horses, some with bikes, some with - just with foot, and then, when we were there, the soldiers came, and also (Laugh) our Paramount Chief - he came, then the man who was the speaker, he was the first man to die. He was shot by the Chief, because they were talking to the helicopter - the helicopter was just close to us, opening the door - they were facing this way, so the whatname - the - some of the comm - or the police, or the soldier, or captain was talking with the Paramount Chief, asking him what, or who are these.

The Chief say : It's my people, what are they doing here - they are opposing the meeting of the A.N.C. - do you know that the A.N.C.'s banned - Oh, yes, but what must we do with them - Hey, you'd better kill them - How? Then he have to take a gun, then shoot - he shot the man who was a speaker.

J.F. The Chief shot him?

A.Q. Ja - then, after that I can't tell you what had happened, because all the plane, the saras (222) and everything - I've noticed, myself, on the tree - branches, lying on my back, full with sand, everything - on my mouth, in the nose - even the face.

J.F. How did that come - how did the tree get on top of you?

A.Q. I can't tell you how.

J.F. Was it a riot or - what was happening?

A.Q. They've just start to shoot now.

J.F. The army and the police?

A.Q. Ja, the police and the soldiers. There was some saracens closer to us. When I whatname - I tried to come down to the tree, but I noticed that everything is just bursting - everything they were pow, pow everywhere, everywhere. Now I was scared I have to just keep a time, sitting down there.

Even my body was not strong enough to go - so I can walk. I have to stay there for a while. I think I - more than three hours I was sitting down there. Then after that, I have to try to get away to - to get away here, but what I noticed, a lot of people have died on that whatname.



A.Q. If you can go at Transkei to Muza (237) he can - the whole mountain is full with graves from down to up hill - the people who died that time. Then, after that, the people were (and say : What does the Government haave towards them to) (241) put them in jail. Some of them - they hanged them. Some, like Mandela - they were imprisoned.

Some of them, they just ran away. That's the time I escaped open now. We have to go back home. There, we find ourselves that we were divided into two groups now. There's some of us are working against us. They're fighting with us. The police, they're using them to burn our homes, and even ourselves, we have to fight now and fight those - the informers. They always come by night, and also that we use the same strategy, even ourselves, to attack them by night.

We're living in the forest there - can't go home at all. We have to take all - everything, clothes, everything to the forest to put them on the safe place there. Soldiers were working hard, and they were very rough to the people - raping the women, hitting everyone, asking you : Where is the congress?, have to hit you, sometimes till you die.

If they see the peoples' stock, they just grab anything, just kill it and make fire and just braai.

J.F. This is black policemen and soldiers?

A.Q. No, it's white - it's white, but even the peoples - they were divided, because some of them they were working with the soldiers and police. They have to go where - show the police where we always meet. They have to go there, find the police there. Some of them - they come by night and kill some of our - the people who are - the informers came with them - with the police sometime at night, and killed the people.

J.F. Did you meet during the day or at night?

A.Q. We used to fight at night, because at the daytime the police they are working wild. It they meet you on the way, they just kill you - they just grab your - have to - in jail or you will find yourself in hospital.

J.F. And the meetings - were they only at the night time?

A.Q. Yes, the meetings were always made - get together for the meetings at night.

(Am trying to keep this as near word for word as possible - makes punctuation a bit difficult, and I may have to put in the odd word which sounds like a grunt here and there! I'm leaving out as many whatsnames as I can, where he provides an alternative word.)

J.F. In the forests somewhere?

A.Q. In the forests, ja, and sometime - I remember the other day, when we were in the meeting - anyway, it was evening, about sunset, when the meeting was starting. Now the helicopters came there - mess every whatname - they make us run.

We have to - we were separated there, or one, both - the other way, or one go the other way : Correction overleaf .....



- A.Q. (Correcting last paragraph as best I can - it's a bit messy!)
- We have to - we were separated there - one goes the other way or one go the other way.
- J.F. How did they know to come to that meeting - had some black person told them that ...
- A.Q. Ja, there was a - there was informers, in between us now. They are working for the Government.
- J.F. Could even your own family have an informer.
- A.Q. No, not in my family - not in my family, but there's some people around with us - around us. They were working with the police, and then after that, we have planned to attack the chiefs' houses, places - even the headmen - burn their houses - they have to run all over the whatname - even our chief have to leave their country.
- First he ran to Kwazulu. Secondly he went to Lesotho, and he was not sitting on one place.
- J.F. So did the police succeed in smashing the rebellion?
- A.Q. Oh, yes, they did - they did, because they - then there was - they take the majority of us - the majority of the people there - they were fighting with the A.N.C. now - at last.
- J.F. And so - let me take you back a little bit before that - why were the people supporting the A.N.C. - when you heard about the A.N.C., what did it mean to you - what did you think of when you heard about the A.N.C. - what kind of ideas came into your mind if you thought of the A.N.C.?
- A.Q. Oh, ja - in our mind, it came that the A.N.C. - to the A.N.C. we can stand together and fight the Government so they will do what we want, not what they want.
- J.F. And did you want to join the A.N.C. because you were anti the white people - was A.N.C. anti white?
- A.Q. No, the man who was the organiser there - he didn't explain what whatname is - the A.N.C. is fighting with the white or with the black, but he say the - what he told us is that we have to stand together, so we must fight for this country, so it must be back to us, because the white people - they whatnames - they are using on the wrong side - the wrong way, because they don't give us nothing, but they are getting rich with our country whatname.
- J.F. The reason I'm asking all these questions about race is because my topic is non racialism, so instead of asking more questions on that, I'm focusing on the non racialism. I want to ask you, when you wereregrowing up, was it Pondoland where you grew up?
- A.Q. Yes, it's Pondoland.
- J.F. Were you anti white people - did you ever have any white people there that you saw, or how did you feel about whites when you were a young boy or a teenager?
- A.Q. Oh, ja - on that time we are respecting the white people because we know that they are the master - that's the thing ...



- A.Q. .... we what'sname - if he was to tell you something you have to do it quickly, because he's a superior of you - that's the thing - we are respecting the white people that time. Even the police - even a man of the law, we have to respect, and I remember that, the other day we have to run for nothing as we see the police. The whole day running for the - just because we see the police - maybe the police is going to put us in jail, for what - I don't know - we just - we were respecting the white people.
- J.F. And when did you stop to be just respecting them and thinking they're better than you?
- A.Q. You see, after that killing - the white people killing the black people - that's the time I start to - my mind now it change. I start to hate the police - that's the time. I start to hate the police, I start to hate the soldier. Now I start to hate the Government. The way they kill our people - that's the time.
- That's the time now I start to think the way - how must I what'sname - I can fight, or make the white people work together with the black, because I noticed that there wasn't - the white people they want to be alone - they want to be above to everybody, so no man must come, or no black man must come together with him, or must sit together with him, or must be superior with him.
- J.F. So when you changed to hate the police, you didn't change to hate white people - did you ever want to kill white people?
- A.Q. No, to kill is - I - is a thing I don't like, but I like to tell the person, if they think I don't like, I like to tell the person : See, this thing, I don't like - that's the thing, so please, can you change to another way.
- J.F. And when you were thinking of the A.N.C., when you first heard when they came, were they - all the black organisations, for blacks with blacks only, or did you think that they had Indians or Coloureds or whites.
- A.Q. The A.N.C.?
- J.F. Ja, was it African only, or was it also other ...
- A.Q. No, it was a mixture - it was a mixture ..
- J.F. How did you know it was a mixture.
- A.Q. I remember that there was a group of Coloureds we used to be together with, and some of the whites - we used to be together with them, to the meetings.
- J.F. In Pondoland?
- A.Q. Yes, in Pondoland.
- J.F. There were white people in Pondoland?
- A.Q. Yes.
- J.F. Coming to your meetings?



- A.Q. Yes.
- J.F. Which white people were they?
- A.Q. I remember Mr. Myburgh - he was a hotel owner. Mr. Jelley - he was a shop-keeper. Mr. Rock - he was also a shop-keeper. Mr. Hildebrand - he was a shop-keeper, and Mr. Naude - first he was a police, now he was a shop-keeper. That's the people - the white people - they were - we used to be together sometime.
- J.F. And were they supporting the A.N.C.?
- A.Q. Oh, yes, they were supporting the A.N.C. They even attend our meetings.
- J.F. Where are they today - do you know?
- A.Q. I don't know where are they today. Even Mr. Munroe - Mountjoy, and Mr. Hart. There was a number of white people who were to the A.N.C. Even the Coloureds, because in our - in Pondoland there is no Indians. It's only the Coloured, whites and the black.
- J.F. And when you were hearing of the names of the people in the A.N.C., who were the ones that you supported the most - which famous - which A.N.C. people - which leaders?
- A.Q. Anyway, I didn't - on that time I always hear to the man who was the organiser, not the really leader - I'd never seen the leader - I always hear about the leader, Mandela, and also Champion at Chesterville, and some of the other - even Matanzima was in the A.N.C.
- J.F. And...
- A.Q. Matanzima - was the case - Matanzima - he was a executive member of the A.N.C.
- J.F. Long ago.
- A.Q. Yes, but today he hate it because Botha is hating it (Laugh)
- J.F. And were there any A.N.C. people who are coming from your area of Pondoland - any famous ones - was - Mandela wasn't from there?
- A.Q. He was from Transkei.
- J.F. Transkei?
- A.Q. Ja.
- J.F. But Pondoland - was he a Pondo?
- A.Q. No, he's a Mtembu - he's a Tembu (401)
- J.F. And...
- A.Q. And from - there's a chief who was a executive member of the A.N.C. I think - he died in the prison.
- J.F. Chief Lutule?
- A.Q. No, not Lutule - it's a Pondo chief.



- J.F. So after they smashed the A.N.C. - they smashed the rebellion, did you think : This is finished - we won't win our freedom - did you think the whites are too powerful, or ..
- A.Q. That - I was left stranded thinking of what will happen to morrow. There is no organisation - I don't even know one : Correction : I don't hear even no-one talking about the organisation now, to organise the people to something. The people were scared now of the Government. They didn't want to try - it was even - even the time Matanzima was pushing up his national party, I have to pull my feet back, because even the time we vote, I didn't vote, because I was not satisfied why or - or with their strategies.
- J.F. Which vote was that?
- A.Q. There was a vote to vote who's going to be a leader, between the National Party of Transkei and the opposition party, ja. I didn't vote, because I feel this is not the good organisation.
- J.F. So there was - after the A.N.C. there was nothing in the '60's for you?
- A.Q. Oh, there was nothing after that.
- J.F. So you weren't in any political organisation?
- A.Q. From that time no - I was just neutral.
- J.F. And did you leave Transkei?
- A.Q. Then I left Transkei - I - when I left school, I have to go to Transvaal - to work at Transvaal, at Curtonrille (435)
- J.F. Did you get on a contract, or did you just go by yourself.
- A.Q. No, I just go by myself. I was working to the building contractor.
- J.F. Did you have problems with your papers and your pass, or could you just go?
- A.Q. Oh, too much! - too much, but I was a lucky one because at the end, my papers were O.K. Then I have to work for two years at Carltonville (442) The third year I have to come to Durban, because now I notice that it's too far (it was ..... ) (444) Carltonville. When even I've got a long week-end I can't go home at Transkei.
- J.F. Were you married in Transkei?
- A.Q. M - ye - now - now. That time I was not married.
- J.F. Was that your family there?
- A.Q. Ja, my family's there - my..
- J.F. How many children in your family?
- A.Q. I've got the three - two girls and a boy.
- J.F. You're the boy, or another one?



- A.Q. No, it's only one boy.
- J.F. That's yourself?
- A.Q. Ja, myself and two girls.
- J.F. And so then - what did you do in Carltonville - what was the job?
- A.Q. I was working a plumbing job - I was doing the plumbing.
- J.F. And then you went to Durban, and what work did you do?
- A.Q. Same - plumbing - I was plumbing.
- J.F. Were you trained as a plumber?
- A.Q. Yes, I was trained as a plumber - at Kokstaad Vocational.
- J.F. Where's that?
- A.Q. It's also at Transkei - there's a Catholic school.
- J.F. And did you get a good wage as a plumber?
- A.Q. Phew (Or similar!) That's a thing make me left the plumbing, and I have to go to the factory, because when I what'sname I have to work for seven years to get the right papers of the plumbing. After that, then there was a - my baas I have to - I've asked my baas to give me increase - he says : Oh, Alfred, I can't do nothing for you because the Government don't allow the blacks to get more money than this I gave you. Then I was very cross, because I was training everybody - even the apprentice I was doing the - I have to direct them with the plumbing.
- I just feel : Oh, I must go to the factory, and do the job which I don't know - I've nev - I didn't spend my time on it.
- J.F. So was it job reservation that made you not to get enough money?
- A.Q. I beg yours.
- J.F. Was it called - was it job reservation - the colour bar, that made you to not get enough money?
- A.Q. Yes, ja, ja - that's the thing make me fed up - I turn - I just left the plumbing. I have to - I've get a job at Dunlops.
- J.F. Doing what?
- A.Q. Pistar (485) driver.
- J.F. When was that that you left the job?
- A.Q. 198 - 1974 - 1974.
- J.F. And then, by that time were you married?
- A.Q. Yes, I was married now, because my first born is what'sname - is '73.
- J.F. And your family - could they come with you?



- A.Q. No.
- J.F. Why not?
- A.Q. Because I haven't got a house here - I'm living on my - my uncle's house, so they haven't got the permit to come with me. I'm only the man who's allowed to come here. I've got the papers to live in the area as I'm a worker.
- J.F. How often can you see your family?
- A.Q. I used to go home in the week-end, and sometimes I have to call them and ask the permission for the permit for fourteen days (Laugh)
- J.F. You have to get a permit for them to come and visit you?
- A.Q. Ja, ja.
- J.F. Where's the permit from?
- A.Q. The?
- J.F. The permit was from - who gave the permit?
- A.Q. Oh, the Port Natal Administration Board.
- J.F. And was it a big job to get the permit, or is it easy?
- A.Q. It's not easy. We have to wait for the list - we have to write you to the list, and wait for the list till you come - to come to your name.
- J.F. And how many children do you have?
- A.Q. Three.
- J.F. Now, when you went to Dunlop in '74 - are you still at Dunlop?
- A.Q. Yes, I'm still working for the Dunlop.
- J.F. And how did you feel about the idea that your family couldn't come to be with you?
- A.Q. That's a - that's a big problem - that's a question which I can't even - myself - I'll ask myself why my family - I can't live with my family in town, but there is no answer in myself too, because the - it's the system, I can say - of the Government.
- J.F. And why do you think a government would want people not to live with their wives and children?
- A.Q. It's just because of the - they want the people - they can use them only - not their children to come and make a big family here in town, but they want the man, because the man, he's the worker - they're getting something to the man, unless the woman's got to work too.
- J.F. And did that make you angry, or did it make you sad?
- A.Q. It make me sad because I always remember my family. I like to be together with my children, every time, but I .....



A.Q. .... can't because of the system.

END OF SIDE ONE.

J.F. ... did it make you in any way anti white - did you think that you were angry with these whites for making you have to not be with your family - did it in any way make you feel bitter against white people?

A.Q. No, I don't like to - I don't feel like that - I ca - they must die because they refuse to let me live with my people. I like them to change the system - to change the system, because it's only the black man who's not allowed to live with his family, because if the man - a white man get a job - if I'm a white man I just get a job here in Durban, then everything is therefor me with my - even for my family to live together with, but the black man - they only - if the man have tried to get a job there, then he get the job, then it's only him he's allowed to be there.

J.F. Did you ever join a union?

A.Q. Oh, yes. 1980 I've to join the (he says mental, but I'm sure he means metal and allied workers union 616) because that's a time I've remember the organisation when I started Dunlop, when I see the way management is treating the people, because it was easy for the worker to go, even without he haven't done nothing wrong, because the council member - they don't fight for the worker, even the whatsname - we - there was a council committee there - liaison committee, I can say - it's a liaison committee.

There was a liaison committee when I joined the Dunlop, wh - they - he wa - he was just a dummy, because the management have to call you to the office - even the manager just call you to the office, and calls the liaison committee. He have to tell the liaison committee that you - now he want to give you a warning because of that and that and that. The council members just : Oh, oh, oh - after that they say : Here, you see the Baas - you hear what the Baas say - says he's going to give you warning - why you done such a thing like that - Oh, I didn't done that - No, he's a liar - give him the warning - that's that thing.

After that, even to dismiss you it's the same.

J.F. So who got you into the union - how did you get into the union?

Q.A. Oh, I whatsname - the other day when I was going to start at work, at two o'clock, just when I jump off to the bus here at Dalton at Sydney Road (634) I met a organiser with the pamphlets, giving the Dunlop people, then I whatsname - at the same time I was just feeling here that thing I was looking for. I didn't waste my time - I just went to work - on the following day I came late - early o before ...



- Q.A. ... two - I have to start - come and join here and get my card, everything, and pay them the fees, everything. Then I start to what'sname now - to recruit inside the factory, slowly.
- J.F. Now when you're recruiting - because you see the part I want to ask you about - it's not about the union as much as about the non racialism in the union, so, when you were recruiting in the factory, would you say to some of your fellow workers : Look, this union it's against the white people?
- A.Q. No, no.
- J.F. How would you say it?
- A.Q. I say they - people who have to join this union, so we must fight together for all our - what we want to this company, because there su - it's a lot of things which are wrong. The council member - they can't do nothing for us who are getting a low wage. They don't want to pay us. We are getting increase of two cents after a year - that is wrong. This company's gaining a lot of money - they should give us more.
- We must get a living wage, so this union is going to fight for us, the good condition of working, also the good salary.
- J.F. Now when you were in the - since you joined the union, were there any whites in the union?
- A.Q. There was a union inside the factory at Dunlop - Durban Rubber..
- J.F. No, I'm saying were there any white people in the union - were there any whites?
- A.Q. No, no.
- J.F. So in MAWU, in FOSATU have you seen any whites involved with the union - white people?
- A.Q. Yes, yes.
- J.F. What did you think about that, and in all the years before, when you were working in Carltonville - when you came into Durban at first, had you ever seen whites who were trying to help you?
- A.Q. No (Laugh) no - it was the first time then to see the whites - the white helping the black people to their organisation. Then I have to ask them carefully what they're up to - they are up to (Laugh)
- J.F. You were a bit suspicious at first?
- A.Q. Oh, yes, I have to satisfy myself as to what they're up to, then they explain carefully for me.
- J.F. What did they say?



- A.Q. They say this is a non racial union - everyone is free to join. It doesn't matter if it's a white or black or Coloured, Indian or every - everyone is free to join as long he's getting paid - hourly paid person.
- J.F. Where are you staying?
- A.Q. Oh, I'm living at the farm there at Inanda.
- J.F. In Inanda.
- A.Q. Ja.
- J.F. And while you've been here in Durban all these years, have you ever joined any political organisations?
- A.Q. No.
- J.F. And even in the - 1980, since you joined the union, have you joined any ones?
- A.Q. No, I only joined the Metal and Allied Workers Union only.
- J.F. And did you ever go to a UDF meeting?
- A.Q. Yes, I gave myself a time to go to the other organisation, because I - the organisation it's a organisation - it's the same like the one I've joined.
- J.F. So what do you think of the UDF and those organisations?
- A.Q. First I didn't worry myself to look at the UDF, but now my eyes are looking to the UDF, even to the other organisation, especially to the students organisation, even the community, because I'm also the part of the community.
- J.F. Why didn't you want to look first, and now you've changed - why do you say first you didn't want to look to the UDF, now you're looking - why is that?
- A.Q. It's just because, first I haven't got a clear idea of the UDF - where is it going to, you see, but now, as I - I notice, even since the what'sname this - a lot of troubles were happening now, then I've noticed that the U.D.F's got good leaders, because where there's a majority of UDF, there was no problem at all, but where there's a mix of the organisation, then there was a lot of trouble, just exactly like Mlazi, Kwamashu and Inanda.
- There's a mixture - it's UDF and INKATA.
- J.F. So have you had any trouble - have you had any trouble with any of these troubles recently.
- A.Q. Phoo, the - on the last of last week, the week-end, I couldn't rest - fighting with the people I don't know - who I'm fighting with, because they are all the black. At Inanda there, on Friday, I was just coming from town with my wife and little boy who was sick. We are using the Kombis there. When about near the depot - Patco depot, a group of people came there - they say ; Ay, every man must be out - leave the woman (women) (699) alone to the car - you must go and fight with the Indians. I was wondering what's happening. Then I just jumped down, .....



A.Q. .... I just take my parcels, I carry on with my way. I just tell my wife and little boy they must go home - carry on going - go home - I'll march down. Then on the way I met the other friend - my neighbour, with a car - he's just pick me up, then we went home. After that then I have to join the other people - they came - coming from the far part of (.....) (706) called Mowdana (?)

They say we must go and hear what's happening, because I noticed the whole group that tri - the police were driving them up to the Inanda S.A.P. There was a meeting there - short meeting there.

J.F. What's S.A.P.?

A.Q. Inanda - Inanda S.A.P.

J.F. Police?

A.Q. Police - police station - it's a police station.

J.F. Were people going to the police station for a meeting?

A.Q. Ja, there was a meeting there - the police and the soldiers they told the people that they must go Inanda S.A.P. so there will be a short meeting there. Then we have to go there. When we were there, other police addressed the meeting, say : People, the Indians say they are not fighting with you - they don't know what you - why you are fighting with them. They were living with you so many years without the problem, but now they really don't know what was really happening, so now everything is over - better go home - don't interfere the other people who's coming or going out the area. Then we accept (721) that.

On the way back, when we were just sitting out I was trying to - I was just having a cup of tea. I heard the people now running all over the (Laugh) show. I was wondering what's happening. I have to leave the - put the cup of tea down and go outside - see a group of people coming from the buses - five buses came - hitting the people - the one man - there was some shooting behind - the place (727) was dark here - it just went - I don't know how it was dark here - he was carrying with his parcels, jumping off from the Kombi : Ay, what these people are doing?

Then we have to take the sticks and have to fight with these people now - I don't know who. Now we have to fight with these people, then these people they ran back. We find that there's a group com - from the buses - they came with the buses. We have to - some of them - our people have to smash the buses - the Pitco buses. Then they ran all over the show, then the buses ran for the whatsname - to save - for their safety.

I don't know where they met their people then, to collect these people - they came with, but the two people died there. The people from - who - they were coming from the bus. Then we noticed that these INCATA people - the following day - it was Saturday, about half past two, we heard that the people of INCATA coming again. We have to rush to the whatsname again - to the - to meet these people - we found four groups of them.

They come to get a - there's a river there. We have to ....



- A.Q. .... what'sname - one of the other men from our side have to shout to them : What are you looking for? (They) say : I want to join you. Now (I) ask him : How can you join us with a big group like that - you didn't tell us nothing before. Oh, he's (it's) (749) changed now - the - that thing now - says : Oh, I'm coming to get my - the people who died there yesterday. Ya, your people died here yesterday - what were you up to? Then the answer was a bullet from their side, and the police are supporting these people - are supporting them.
- They handle the guns - they don't shout - they don't do nothing to them. They always say Usutu, Usutu is going to fix you, shoot with number one.
- J.F. Let me ask you - just for time I want to ask some questions - so do you think that INCATA's working with the police?
- A.Q. Together - together - together - together - the police - even I'm not sure - I'm quite sure that the INCATA was not only alone there - they were mixing with the black police - with the guns there.
- J.F. O.K. - I'm not going to ask any more questions, because I want to come back to the other topic O.K. - do you work with Indians at Dunlop?
- A.Q. Yes, yes - we are working together.
- J.F. Are there Indians in your MAWU branch - in your..?
- A.Q. Yes, yes.
- J.F. And have you ever had trouble with Indians in?
- A.Q. No, no, no, no - even myself - I'm asking myself why - what happened - why there - the blacks interfered the Indians because we were friends. It's just like a brother and a sister with them.
- J.F. And what's your position in MAWU - are you a shop steward or something?
- A.Q. I was a shop steward before. Now, but I'm : Correction : I was a shop steward before now, but I'm writing place (769) short - and the books - everything like that.
- J.F. And poetry?
- A.Q. Yes. (Suggest 769 is plays)
- J.F. Now how did you come to start writing plays and poetry - how did that start with you - why did you start to write?
- A.Q. I started when I was doing Standard Three - I start to write a play when I was Standard Three.
- J.F. But since you've been at the factory, why have you started to write?
- A.Q. Oh. You see, I start to write because I was writing my book - must - it was - my - it was a secret book, writing about what I've collide with as I am living. Then when I was writing that book, I have to meet Ari when we - ....



- A.Q. .... formed the Dunlop play. Then Ari - I told Ari I'm looking for the person who's going to type my book. Then he ask me what kind of book - I just tell him. (He) said : O.K., bring it. I just take it to him, although it was not complete.
- J.F. So let me stop - I think I can get some copies of that from - we can ask that later - so let me ask just another couple of questions before I go, but I'll be sure if I can get some copies of some of the poems and things. Can I ask you, do you think there's going to be a change in South Africa - this Government will be changed some day?
- A.Q. Oh, ja - just because I think my group - I grown up with them - we were very social with the Government - being scared of the Government - respecting this Government, but we didn't gain nothing. I think the violence (Laugh) is going to make him straight some time, because as the - as what happened now, I think there is a crack.
- There is a crack now because he doesn't know what to do, because he doesn't know what is really happening at the time - what will happen tomorrow.
- J.F. And do you think that the unionists - MAWU and these unions will make South Africa change?
- A.Q. Sure, if we work together - if we work together.
- J.F. And how will the unions make South Africa change?
- A.Q. It'll make them change - the South Africa change, because if the people they get on one side, then face one man, then - together - then it's easy for - to crack to the Government so the Government will see that he's alone out there - there's no friend of him, because the thing which make the Government doesn't worry about what's happening, is just because of there's some of the organisation which is under his armpit as - it's just organisations like INCATA.
- J.F. But how can the unions push the Government to change - how can the workers make the Government change?
- A.Q. You see, the Government, even himself, is elected by the workers. See, if the workers reject that Government, then there was no - there will no other way to stand, because the workers are electing the Government - they are putting (pushing) (813) the Government up. Everything is done by the workers.
- J.F. And you said that you were beginning to look at UDF more now - why is that?
- A.Q. It's because I've noticed that, as I said before, that we were social when we growing (grown) (817) up, but now the violence, I noticed that is doing something - to tell the man or the person the truth, the what is inside you, it's much better than to go that way that way - they would make a zig-zag so the man won't understand what you are saying, because the UDF, if - he say : This is a mountain - says that this is a mountain, it's not - he (you) (822) say : This is a thing like a mountain.
- J.F. You mean it's not a mountain - it can be moved?



- A.Q. Ja.
- J.F. Where's Dunlop?
- A.Q. Dunlop is at Sydney Road.
- J.F. If there was, in the paper, a story about the Government says terrorists are doing this - terrorists have bombed this - these terrorists are on trial - how do the workers feel about that - do they think : Oh, these terrorists are bad, or do they ever talk about terrorists, saying something good about them - how do the workers - do they ever speak about it, if they see in the paper : This A.N.C. has attacked this SASOL or this pass court has been bombed or something - what do the workers say about that - what do you say?
- A.Q. You see, at this moment they are still - we have got a different minds - some they say : Ja - but some just say : No, it's bad - but the majority say Ja, because the Government's got no ears (Laugh)
- J.F. And that makes them..
- A.Q. Ja, you'll make them get the ears to hear what the people say - what the people are asking.
- J.F. And are the people afraid if they hear A.N.C., or do they think it's coming up - it's O.K., or are they a bit scared that it could cause trouble?
- A.Q. At this stage I think everybody's - is sick and tired of this Government, because he's giving no - nothing to the black people. See, that's why the whatsnames - they are fighting, so that they must be known because it seems like - I think the person who doesn't know South Africa he will think that there is only the white in South Africa - there is no blacks - there is no such a man like me or something like that, but to show themselves as they are doing - what they are doing, then it will be a good crack to the Government to change.
- J.F. And when you say you're looking more and thinking about the UDF, do you think you could ever join them?
- A.Q. At this moment I am still thinking about our - the organisation that they must affiliate, so we can work together, as I think, too the - even the student organisation - the parents must work together with the children - they must work together, because they must - they must get the guideline from the parents.
- J.F. But what if someone says : Look, we can't have the unions coming to be political, because then the Government will smash the unions - they must stay away from politics.
- A.Q. Well, it's - to me it seems the same, because even the union people they are getting killed by the Government, as they are not political. I don't see why we mustn't join the community organisations because we are the community. We are the workers to the factory, but to the township we are the community, so we must work together.
- J.F. So do you think South Africa will change - do you think ....



- A.Q. Tomorrow it will change, sister - it will. As I see now it will, but what will fix this thing, it's the worker and the children - we must work together.
- J.F. And when South Africa changes, where will the white people go - what will be the place of the white people?
- A.Q. On my side, I say we must - as we - we must be together, but we must be - it must be a equal level to everybody. If I've got - let's say, if I've got money, I want to buy something, as I can buy to the shop, I must do it like that - it must be the same.
- J.F. And how many kids do you have?
- A.Q. Three.
- J.F. And what's your full name?
- A.Q. Alfred Themba - my surname is Qabula - Q a b u l a.
- J.F. And which do you prefer to be called - which do your friends call you - Alfred or Themba?
- A.Q. The - both are the same, but I like the one of the - my - Themba, because when it's full it's Thembeni. You see, I've got a history of it - that's why I really like it, because I've asked my mother : Why you say I'm Thembeni? Then she told me that, when she was preg (886) - because you always get the boys - boys, boys, boys, boys - now he (she) was think that : Ah, ah, it's a girl now, this time (Laugh) - it's a girl this time - hoping that it's a girl.
- Now, at the end, it was a boy - (she) say : Oh, what I was hoping? That's my name (Laugh)
- J.F. I see - and the one last question I wanted to ask you was - your ideas about workers, and your ideas about the system - where did you come to get these ideas - did you read them in books - did you hear them from the organisers - did you hear them from white people in the unions - did you hear them back in Pondoland - where have you gotten your political ideas?
- A.Q. Oh, I get them to the Pondoland - at Pondoland, I can say, because when I joined the A.N.C., that's the time I start to see the things with the other eyes, because I was - as I was still young, but that time gave me a new idea from there - then I - on my mind there was a - I have to know this is wrong, and this is not good.
- J.F. And you said that after the Pondoland rebellion was crushed, then the A.N.C. was gone - there was nothing happening - do you think the A.N.C. is still finished, or do you think it's coming back, or do you think it was ever killed totally, or what do you think about the A.N.C. today.



- A.Q. Today, as I see, and as I think, the A.N.C.'s still alive - they still alive, because all the - most of the members are still alive, and the A.N.C. still working.
- J.F. And the Government says it's the A.N.C. is outside people - do you think the A.N.C. is in South Africa?
- A.Q. I don't believe that it's only outside. Even here it's N.C.C. here (917) We still get the - got the members of the old A.N.C., and they are still operating.
- J.F. And new ones - are they coming up?
- A.Q. Yes, and there's others, I think, too. As I see the strategy of the UDF, there is no difference with the A.N.C. - it's the same, same, same - that's why I say the A.N.C.'s still alive inside the South Africa.

END OF INTERVIEW.