

"Hate-Free, Fear-Free South Africa"

HAMMARSKJOLD HEARS AFRICAN REVOLUTIONARY

United Nations Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold recently paid a visit to South Africa. There revolutionary African leaders told him, "Non-white people want to work with white people to build a fear-free, hate-free nation in South Africa."

With these words, Dr. William Nkomo, co-founder and first President of the militant African National Congress Youth League, set the tone for discussions which Mr. Hammarskjold is reported to have said were among the most important he had during his six-day visit to the Union. *The Times of London Service* and other world press facilities carried news of this interview.

Of himself, Dr. Nkomo says, "I have always been a revolutionary and have spent a long time in the struggle for the liberation of my people. I believed that the hope of Africa lay only in a bloody revolution.

"At an MRA Assembly I saw white men and black men change and I myself changed. I realized that I could not love my people unless I was pre-

pared to fight for them in a new dimension, free of bitterness and hate. I saw something greater than nationalism at work. I saw an ideology which is superior because it is an ideology for every man everywhere. I believe this is the one road which will be the best road for my people and for South Africa.

"I used to admire men who brought division, but I see now that real greatness comes when a man selflessly dedicates himself so to live that people find the answer in their lives. I will follow this path to the end and there is no turning back. There is unity above color, above race, and that touches the deepest thing in your heart. This is the hour to enlist."

A man who was a leader of the biggest mineworkers' strike in the history of the South African gold industry, Philip Vundla, spoke in London of Nkomo's talks with Hammarskjold. Vundla, who was once called by the police "the most dangerous man in South Africa" and who represents 600,000 Africans in Johannesburg,



Dr. William Nkomo

said, "I cannot sufficiently emphasize the urgency of the time. Africa is fighting, often in the wrong way, but we are determined to fight. I have often fought in the wrong way with bitterness and hatred. This just leads to destruction and death.

"Today all Africa is saying to MRA, 'Please come quickly.' This is the only force that can save my country and the world."

One week after the riots at Sharpeville last year, which resulted in the death of 73 Africans, Nkomo and Vundla called together 200 people of all races to meet in Johannesburg. There they gave evidence of a world answer and planned a strategy to meet the crisis. It was the only platform on which black and white met together at that time of national emergency.