

By Arnold deMille

than 12 African States with a population of over 3 1/2 million, is located on the Southeast coast of Africa.

Transkei, October 26, 1976, when it was granted independence by South Africa after 66 years.

However, months before the "independence" became official, controversy and suspicion loomed heavily over the motives of South Africa in granting independence to Transkei. The outside world was fully aware of South Africa's separate development (more recently called plural development)

The separate development policy is a long - term survival plan to preserve South Africa's apartheid (segregation) system by fragmenting the country's 22 million blacks and 4 1/2 million whites into ten so-called 'independent homestead' states.

Nine of the states will be for blacks and one for whites.

Only 13 Percent
The interesting phase of the plan is that the nine fragmented territories which are being designated as homestead states for the blacks will comprise a mere 13% of South Africa's territories.

The one state reserved for the white population will encompass 87% of the country.

Most of the territories designated for the blacks are uncultivated, unprofitable bushlands without a single major city, except Transkei. The territories being preserved for the white Africans

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TRANSKEI ...?

Is the Republic of Transkei truly an independent nation or a black puppet state of racist South Africa's apartheid "separate development" system?



Ngqondi L. Masimini, Transkei's Minister - at -Large.

(Afrikaners) include all of the country's major cities.

Another interesting feature of the Afrikaners' survival plan is to eventually disfranchise all South African blacks and grant them citizenship to

one of the nine independent homestead states.

A young Thembu woman smoking a long - stemmed

pipe. One of the Transkei tribespeople.

In short, the Afrikaners' long - ranged goal is to preserve South Africa as a white state for whites only.

The big question then is "Will the Republic of Transkei be a free and independent nation, or will it continue to be under the domination and control of South Africa's racist apartheid system and



Panoramic view of City Hall Gardens, Umtata, Transkei, the nation's capital.

separate development scheme?"

United Nations View

The consensus of opinion at the United Nations is that Transkei is not truly an independent nation but a "homestead" created state of South Africa. Transkei's request for membership into that body was denied.

In rejecting the request, the UN Secretary - General stated:

"The position of the UN is clear on the question of the so-called independence of the Transkei.

"Both the Security Council and the General Assembly have condemned on numerous occasions the policy of Bantustans or homelands on the ground that they are designed to consolidate apartheid, to violate the unity and territorial integrity of the country and to perpetuate minority rule.

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-TRANSKEI...!

"The General Assembly called upon 'all governments and organizations not to deal with any institutions or authorities of the Bantustans or to accord any form of recognition to them."

"The South African government must understand that the world community will never accept the establishment of the Transkei or any other so-called Bantustan as separate political entities."

"The only viable solution is to turn away from the policy of apartheid and allow all the people of South Africa to exercise fully their basic human rights."

Ngqondi L. Masimini, Transkei's Minister - at - Large in Washington, D.C., vehemently denounces those who brand his country as a Bantustan (homestead) puppet state of South Africa and proudly defends Transkei's independence and rights to be recognized as an independent

"Transkei is a free, true independent African country, We are a sovereign Republic. Absolutely, we are not a puppet of South Africa," Mr. Masimini indignantly respon-

"South Africa has had nothing to do with our government since October 26, 1976, the date of our independence. We oppose the apartheid system; we oppose South Africa's policies—and we oppose them as fighters.

"We have made this clear to South Africa and to the world. Our foreign and internal policies are totally and completely independent of South Africa."

Final Analysis

"In fact, South Africa in the final analysis is our sole enemy," Mr. Masimini declared. "We are completely independent. As a matter of fact, we are more independent than most African countries. There are countries by reason of their geographical location are forced to play hand - in - glove with South Africa."

Masimini pointed out that Transkei's border neighbor, the Kingdom of Lesotho, which became independent in 1966, is almost completely landlocked within South Africa, except along the borders of Transkei, and must lean heavily on the apartheid country.

Transkei, on the other hand, has a 200 - mile coast on the Indian Ocean, which gives it access to the outside world.

The Minister - at - Large disclosed that the eyes of the Transkeians were not closed when they accepted independence from South Africa. They were fully aware of the motives of South Africa in offering the independence.

"We always knew what their motives were. But we accepted independence for different motives completely.

"Their motives are to create these so - called independent homestead territories so that they can point to these territories and say (to the blacks) you can go here, you can go there and be citizens of this country that country, thereby leaving them (the whites) to take the bigger cake of land.

"We know it's their scheme to keep them in power, to be able to maintain their control over black's existence and to move the blacks around as they wish."

State of Prison

The Minister - at - Large paused for a moment, then continued, "We had our motives in accepting independence. We figure 3½ million free minds are so much better than 3½ million minds in prison—and South Africa is a state of prison.

"We figured that out of 22 million blacks (in South Africa) if we can extricate our $3\frac{1}{2}$ million, or whatever number we can—we figure it is better to do that than let those $3\frac{1}{2}$ million blacks stay

in South Africa's state prison, especially if we could get some support from the West. But as of now, we don't have the support from the West."

According to Masimini expressed the opinion that South Africa did not grant his country independence out of the goodness of the heart nor solely to fullfill its separate development goal.

During the years Transkei was under the domination of South Africa, the Minister explained, it was no more than a labor pool for South Africa and the Transkeians suffered under the system.

Following a series of attacks by the British Commonwealth because of its apartheid policies and its treatments of blacks, the government of the Union of South Africa withdrew from the commonwealth in 1961 and declated itself independent of Britain.

"At that time Transkei was fighting against South Africa's apartheid system—against the disgraceful treatment of our people. The fighting was called the 'Bizana Peasant Revolts' of the sixties.

"South Africa sent troops into Transkei and in 1960 declared a state of emergency in the whole of South Africa. After three months the emergency was lifted in other parts of South Africa, but it was imposed upon Transkei.

"We were under that state of emergency from 1960 until we received independence.

"For 16 years Transkei was under state of emergency and under the guns of the army. And for 16 years we were fighting them. We used anything we could find as weapons — anything we could put our hands on. We got rifles wherever we could get them; we used spears, knives and things like that."

Turn of events had a role in the decision to grant independence to the Transkeians, Masimini believes.

-Down to Rio

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Brazilians are warm, happy and fiercely proud of their country. They welcome tourists and all they ask is that travelers enjoy their country and their people.

Language is not a problem.

Many Brazilians speak

English as well as French,

Spanish and Portuguese.

goodbye to practically all the passengers, Gooding met a Brazilian friend and enjoyed Rio for the next few days.

The days were filled with swimming in the surf along the famed Copacabana Beach where anyone can join in an impromptu soccer game.

beyond the fabulous tiled walks are boutiques filled with everything from string bikinis and hand - crafted souvenirs to fine jewelry.

A trip to an open market is a must. An empty square comes alive at eight in the morning and luscious tropical fruits and exotic flowers

farms.

Gooding and his friend

decided to explore the old Colonial section of the city which has remained relatively untouched for hundreds of years.

Dowtown Rio surrounded by breathtaking mountains, is bustling with the building of gigantic sky scrapers. In contrast, one can stroll for hours in tropical gardens full of exotic birds or take a safari tour into the tropical forests nearby.

Antonio enjoyed the cable car trip to Sugar Loaf to see the 139 - foot high statue of Christ the Redeemer and had another spectacular view of Rio over coffee from the top of the Rio Othon Palace.

Of course, no evening in Rio would be complete without dancing to good Brazilian music. The samba is heard everywhere and is easy to learn. Antonio learned this infectious dance at the famous Marrakech disco when he was joined by members of a samba school.

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