



On the 3rd October the appeal of three South African mineworkers (known as the NUM 3) against execution was heard. Two of the mineworkers Solomon Nongwati and Paulos Tshelana were acquitted on all counts after spending thirty-one months in detention.

There can be no doubt that the release of these two mineworkers was partly due to the international campaign mounted by the British NUM in association with the Anti-Apartheid Movement's Joint Campaign Against the Repression of Trade Unionists in South Africa and Namibia, which was supported by the Trades Union Congress.

The South African NUM expressed its appreciation for all efforts on behalf of the NUM 3. However the appeal of the third mineworker, Tjeluvuyo Mgedezi, was rejected, despite his being charged on the same count as the other two. This means he could hang at any time, with little notice given to the international community. His last chance is an appeal for clemency. We must act now to stop this judicial murder.

TJELUVUYO MGEDEZI – A VICTIM OF APARTHEID JUSTICE

The case of Mgedezi is of great significance. He is Chairman of a shaft stewards committee at Vaal Reefs gold mine. This mine is owned by Anglo-American Corporation.

Mgedezi was involved in an incident which resulted in the death of four 'team leaders'. These team leaders are seen by most miners as part of the repressive structure of mine management.

SAVE MINERS LEADER TJELUVUYO MGEDEZI

ACT NOW TO SAVE MGEDEZI

Mgedezi has been victimised by the apartheid state for his role in organising the South African NUM at Vaal Reefs Mine. It is essential that the pressure and publicity which has been galvanised around the three should be focused to prevent Mgedezi's execution. If this mineworker hangs, it will mark the first occasion of judicial murder of a trade unionist in the present round of repression. The British Government has not yet intervened — they must be forced to act.

- **Raise this case in your own organisation. Pass resolutions to be sent to the British Government to intervene in this case.**
- **Lobby your MP and MEP. Order the case briefing from the Joint Campaign.**
- **Send protests to the State President, P W Botha, Union Buildings, Pretoria, South Africa, 0001.**
- **Support demonstrations outside the UK offices of Anglo-American.**
- **Demand that coal from a regime that attempts to hang mineworkers should be banned.**

Violent incidents had been occurring for many months which were blamed by management on 'faction fighting'. But this violence is endemic to a mining system which seeks to maximise profits and reduce the safety of the miners.

Thousands of miners have been killed by poor safety or directly at the hands of team leaders with no charges being bought against the offenders. After the Kinross disaster, where 177 mineworkers were killed, the South African NUM were not allowed to give evidence at the enquiry. The company was cleared of any responsibility for the deaths.

Mgedezi appealed to mine management the day prior to the incident to disarm all the mineworkers in an attempt to halt the violence. This request was refused. In other areas mine management had used armed vigilantes in an attempt to curb the growing power of the South African NUM.



I/We wish to campaign for the acquittal of Tjeluvuyo Mgedezi. Please send me:

- _____ copies of this leaflet.
- Detailed background notes on the case.
- A speaker request form from the *Joint Campaign*.

I/We enclose:

- A £ _____ donation to the *Joint Campaign*.
- A £ _____ donation for the relief of South African miners in detention.

Name _____

Union _____

Address _____

Return to the *Joint Campaign*, 13 Mandela Street, London NW1 0DW. Tel. 01-386 7966

Produced by the *National Union of Mineworkers* and the *Joint Campaign Against the Repression of Trade Unionists in South Africa and Namibia*.