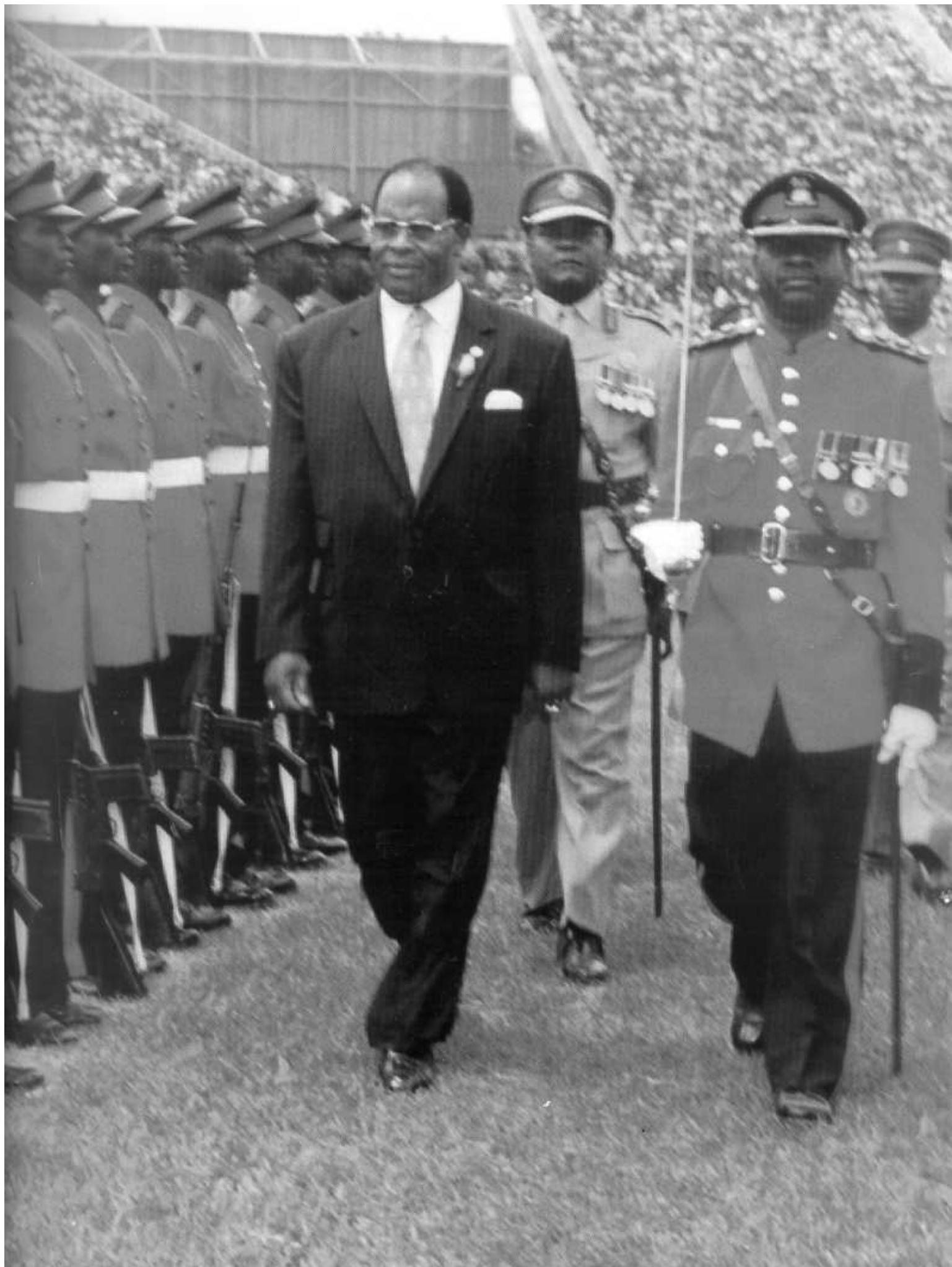




---

**ESTABLISHING  
A SECURE  
MALAWI**



# 13. Establishing a Secure Malawi

## OUR AIM

*The UDF party understands that every Malawian wants to feel safe at home, on the road, and in public areas. Without safety, people cannot enjoy their lives to the fullest. Crime, violence, and corruption are some of the factors that lead to the violation of human rights. Due to poverty, some Malawians resort to unjust means of survival such as robbery. The UDF government will strive to tighten security by recruiting more police officers, providing more police vehicles and communication equipment, and promoting community policing. The UDF will control the possession of illegal fire arms and clamp down car thefts, domestic and political violence.*

*The UDF wants every Malawian to get access to justice when needed. The next UDF government will increase the number of court personnel to ensure that cases are not delayed. The UDF government will continue to play an active role in maintaining peace and stability in the continent and the world.*

## WHAT WE PLEDGED

The UDF government promised to ensure that Malawi plays a full and active part in international affairs. It pledged to lift up Malawi's image and integrate the country into the global community. The UDF pledged to maintain a well disciplined police force and armed Forces who would adequately fight crime and ensure that people feel safe in their homes.

## OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

- The UDF government has introduced reforms in police, immigration, prisons and judicial services.
- The number of police officers has increased and their mobility achieved with the aim of increasing the force's ability to effectively fight crime.
- The Law Commission was set up with the responsibility of aligning all the laws in Malawi to a new democratic dispensation.
- More courts have been built and more judges and lay magistrates appointed in order to speed up delivery of justice.

- The Malawi Army continues to participate in peace keeping missions throughout the world.
- The UDF leadership has been instrumental in negotiating for peace in Zimbabwe and Angola Mozambique, Sudan and Uganda.
- The UDF leader successfully held the Chairmanship of SADC in 2001 and hosted major international conferences including the Heads of States SADC Summit.
- The UDF government successfully negotiated for debt relief under the HIPC program which has helped to release more funds for development programs.

## THE CHALLENGES

- Democracy and poverty alleviation are threatened by insecurity and a constrained injustice system. Crime, violence, corruption and fraud pose challenges to society as these are a violation of human rights. The rights of women, the physically challenged, the elderly, and the youth are easily infringed if the state does not play a role in protecting them. The next UDF government has



the challenge of moving the discussion on human rights into more action.

- World peace is fundamental to the process of social and economic transformation. Civil wars in Africa and terrorist action around the world threatens the potential of Africa to gain economic independence and fit into the global economy.

### **OUR COMMITMENT**

The UDF Government is committed to implementing reforms that will improve the efficiency of the security system to ensure that peace and stability prevail. Under this manifesto, the UDF will maintain law and order and create a conducive environment for development. UDF will ensure that people feel safe in their homes by curtailing armed robberies, controlling possession of illegal fire arms and drugs, clamping down motor vehicle thefts, violent crimes, rape and political violence.

The UDF will continue playing a leading role in brokering peace in Africa. We will work within the framework of the United Nations, SADC, the African Union, and NEPAD to foster development in Malawi.

### **OUR PLEDGES**

**The next UDF government will:**

- Review the Police Commission Act to further decentralize the security system.
- Continue the police reform agenda while improving the provision of services for the people.
- Finalize setting up of a Police Complaint Authority.
- Recruit more police officers to reduce the ratio from 1.1500 to 1.500 in line with the SADC Region norm.
- Construct Police units and intensify training, specifically in investigation capabilities, and specialist Police units.
- Provide more vehicles and communication equipment to enhance mobility and the tracking of criminals.
- Pick up and coordinate policing activities with Private Security firms and community policing.
- Review the police conditions of service, aligning them more with the needs of the community they serve.
- Review the firearms Act, and the Immigration act related procedures to reduce incidents of armed robbery.
- Review the judicial Service and increase the number of judges and magistrates including paralegal staff.
- Increase the number of court staff with a view to reduce turn around time for cases.
- Improve the conditions of service for judges, magistrate's paralegal staff and court staff ensuring an improved image and repatriation of courts and preservation of judicial independence.
- Continue the prison reform project and review the youth custodial program to emphasize rehabilitation and community service in lieu of prison service.
- Promote community policing by decentralising police services in remote areas to the district assemblies.
- Continue to be involved in international affairs and participate in bringing peace to troubled Africa.