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nt to jilfor life .

nearly a quarter of a cen-
tury ago. -

Three of the four men,
Patrick Lekota, Popo
Molefe and Moss Chi-
kane, occupied pivotal
positions in the United
Democratic Front (UDF)
before they were arrest-
ed in April 1985. ;

Their conviction for
treason was heard in
numbed silence by the
scores of people of all
races who crowded into
the public gallery to hear
the verdict in South Afri-
caâ\200\231s longest andâ\200\231 per-
haps most important
treason trial.

Lekota was the UDF
publicity secretary and
Molefe its general secre-
tary.

Chikane was a former
secretary of the Trans-
vaal region of the United

PATRICI(LAURE

~Democratic Front.

The fourth man con-
victed of treason was
Tom Manthatha, a staff
member of the South
African Council of
Churches, a founder

. member of the Soweto

Civic Association and a
champlon of the black
consciousness philosophy.

Manthatha, who pre-
sided as master of cere-

monies at the 1977 funeral of founder of black consciousness, Steve Biko, was the first of the four men to be found guilty of treason yester-

ty of treason

day by Mr Justice Van der Horst.

The judge pronounced-

clamations of shock from the spectators.

Only minutes before Mr Justice Van Dijkhorst had convicted Manthatha of terrorism, having found that he told a mass meeting in the township of Sharpeville that black town councillors should be killed if they refused to heed calls for them to resign.

Before walking down the dock to prison, Lekota told people who swirled toward him to grasp his hand and em-

Molefe said:
strong. You should not

brace him: We have
nothing to be ashamed of.

He stretched towards him,
We are

worried. Chikane embraced admirers who thronged around him,

thanking them for their

friendship and support.

Mr Justice Van Dijkhorst described all three UDF men as intelligent. But he found them to be,

untrustworthy witnesses. He labelled Lekota verbose and mendacious.

Recording that Lekota

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Four guilty of treaso

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had been already been jailed for a politicef offence
â\200\224 he was sentenced to six years in the black con-
sciousness trial of 1975-76 â\200\224 the judge noted that
he had spent sometxme on Robben Island with
Mandela.

Sixteen men sat in dock yesterday before Mr
Justice Van Dijkhorst as he completed his judg-
ment in a trial which dated back to October 1985.

Seven of them were acquitted of treason but con-
victed of terrorism yesterday. Another five were
acquitted on all counts and discharged.

Originally 22 men, most from a cluster of town-
ships in the Vaal Triangle, were charged with
plotting with the outlawed ANC to overthrow the
Government. They faced alternativÃ© charges of ter-
rorism, subversion and murder.

The charges arose from the September 3 1984
riots in the Vaal Triangle in which five people â\200\224
four black councillors and a councillorâ\200\231s aide â\200\224
were murdered by enraged crowds. Angry roving
bands attacked official buildings and councillorsâ\200\231
houses and set them on fire on the same day.

Three of the original 22 accused were acquitted
late in 1986 at the close of the State case. Another
three, including an Anglican priest, Father Geof-
frey Moselane, were acquitted late on Thursday.

The anvil on which the judge hammered out his
treason convictions yesterday was his finding that
the aim of the UDF was to overthrow or endanger
Government authority by making the country un-
governable through a campaign of mass action.

The four men convicted of treason had a national
rather than a local perspective and knew of and
identified with the UDF aim of making South Afri-
ca ungovernable, the judge said.

* The court was adjourned until December 5 to
give counsel for the convicted men an opportunity
to study the 1520 page judgment before leading
evidence in mitigation of sentence.

Mr Arthur Chaskalson, SC, gave notice of inten-
tion to apply for leave to appeal against conviction
and for a special entry (usually associated with

alleged irregularities of proceedings).

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The Star Bureau %W :

~ have begun to enjoy even a small. amount
of the freedom they deserve, . Bl

â\200\234I will work actively to cause South Afri-
ca to free Nelson Mandela â\200\224 with no con-
ditions. : !

â\200\234I will encourage Mandela to do that
which he has been unwilling to do ~ re.
nounce: violence and walk in the g;th ofâ\200\231
non-violence trod by Gandhi and â\200\230Martin
Luther King. R Bl

â\200\234I will encourage an immedjate dialogue
between the Government of South Africa]
and Mandela and other responsible .black
leaders Including Chief Buthelezi of the
Zulus, Archbishop Tutu and other religious |-

leaders as well, - e o e

o â\200\224â\200\224 PP

â\200\230 "255 ; :â\200\231l 5 . eesadse : B T .
. WASHINGTON â\200\224 When American voters
â\200\234 cast thelr presidential ballots ye:terd?,
- they had a profound influence on future US
relations with South Africa, making the dit.
j:- ference between the current tense but â\200\230clvil
- relationship and hostile confrontation,
This is how Mr Bush outlined his ap-
proach to South Afries in a policy docu-
ment Issued by the Republicans yesterday:
a | . "Our goal there is clear, the complete
.ending of apartheid. To achieve that goal, I
believe we must stay engaged,
", â\200\234We have tried Ã©conomic sanctions, and
" .we have tried disinvestment -and they
haven't worked, I do not Stpport breaking
- diplomatie relations, I do not support a re-
: treat from the Sullivan Principles through
., - complete American disinvestent, Sy

_â\200\234Disinvestment has already hurt black

workers, the very people we are seeking to

o assigt, - :

. â\200\234Increased economic development in
South. Africa, in contrast, would require

more frained workers from among the

- black population, It is only these workers,
many working for American firms, who

â\200\230ests are not diminished b th

â\200\234There are no easy answers to the prob-
lem of South Afries, As President, I will
work to end apartheid thers, | will also
work to see that our own strategic inter-
e emergence
of a pro-Soviet radical regime, :

â\200\224 â\200\234Peaceful change, based on'racial equity
and democracy, must be our goal.

FILE = - - NATAL CHAMBER OF INDUSTRIES

v DURBAN, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1988

EXTRACT FROM NEWSPAPE

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'DAILY NEWS'

published in Durban,
Republic of South Africa

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THE election of George Bush as the new president of the United States has given South Africa a breathing space for internal reform. The initiative for peace in Angola and independence for Namibia is still on track. There will be a collective sigh of relief in several African capitals because a Dukakis victory could have aborted much of what, has been carefully achieved in the sub-continent in recent times.

Instead there will be continuity. Mr Bush is part of the Reagan administration; many officials will continue in office and South Africa will hope that one of them will be Dr Chester Crocker, Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, who has been intimately involved in the regional peace initiative.

However, white South Africans should be under no illusion

IF the Government is indeed involved in serious political negotiation with the KwaZulu Government, as indicated by Mr Chris Heunis, Minister of

Constitutional Development and Planning, this could be the start of a breakthrough. Black leaders such as Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi have in the past hung back from negotiation because they doubted the Government's serious intent. They suspected they were being sold old-style apartheid in a new wrapping. But if the Government's good faith is accepted this time, pre-conditions such as the release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners could well

A MAJOR stumbling block in the conviction of child sexual abusers is the difficulty and psychological trauma of obtaining legal evidence from victims. New measures to protect child witnesses which have been submitted to the SA Law Commission by the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, will therefore be widely welcomed. These include provisions that children be allowed to identify

NATAL Parks Board director Mr John Geddes Page, who has retired after 25 years at the helm, can look back on a rewarding career in conservation. When he became director, the budget was less than R250 000; it is now R50 million and the number of reserves has risen from 25 to 70. Mr Page has

spearheaded a number of

Jg The Daily News
Sigh of relief

they have breathing space, no more. Mr Bush is more liberal by temperament than his predecessor. As with President Reagan, he will rule uneasily with a Congress dominated by the Democratic Party, which will be quite capable of beating an anti-South African drum for reasons of internal politics. Congress will be able to override any presidential veto on anti-South African legislation.

Unless South Africa delivers meaningful reform it could find itself dealing with an American president who is on a considerably shorter fuse in terms of exasperation. He could be far less inclined than his predeces-

sor to suffer internal political embarrassment for the sake of constructive engagement.

We have to use that breathing space.

Breakthrough?

become part of the negotiation.

If serious negotiations are on track, and if the proposals of the KwaZulu/Natal Indaba are indeed to be part of the agenda, the implications are profound.

The Indaba. proposals point unambiguously toward federalism. They also outlaw racial discrimination while protecting group cohesions within a framework of power-sharing.

Such notions are no doubt anathema -to many within the present ruling structure. Could this explain recent attempts to discredit Mr Heunis and his officials? They might be negotiating altogether too seriously for the liking of some.

Protecting children

suspects from behind a one-way mirror and that video tapes of interviews between the child and a social worker be admissible in court.

With the alarming increase in cases of sexual abuse] it is hoped that these proposals become reality so that children will now be given the special legal protection that their circumstances demand.

A rewarding career

major projects, including Operation Rhino and the Midmar Resort development, and ensured the continuing survival of many of Natal's precious natural areas and assets. And his successor, Dr George Hughes, is clearly well-qualified to continue the work for which the Parks Board is world renowned.

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the extent of the upsw

new Investment,

He said: "In the process, the domestic economic growth rate was affected in, aite of the fact no direct outflow of cap- ..

l was imposed on the balance of pay- ', mems." A

There had been a general underesti- mation of the resilience of the economy i

to those pressures and, particularly, of the fng of the recent

PETER DELMAR

CONSTITUTIONAL Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis said at a media conference in Pretoria yesterday he was involved in discussions with KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi on the question of reform, He said he mentioned it because there was a general misconception that Government was not talking to the black leaders it should be. Buthelezi recently said he was prepared to start negotiations with Government on bringing about a democratic order : stipulated, however

in 1988 shot up by more than
! 10% above the levels recorded a year

and services per capita and total wealth.

BUSINESS DRY

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to be dwarfed from scarce ; " recovery phase of the economic cycle. able increases ns itc%
7 Whm. probably have [R | Although GDP had increased at an pressures from abroad

for SA's own domestic . annualised rate of only 3,8% to 3% Gut- . "The new situation in SA's

economic relations had
frustrated by the fact that the
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during an expansionary

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NCreas by more than 5% a year over
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' ... Stals said the total absorption of goods

Just the fact SA's im)
record levels during the first
year, the net outflow of ca
ued unabated, he said.

as measured by GNP should be remark- 1980
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Lifegro share
are suspended

Volkskas Merchant Bank
tionary announcement to

Lifegro shares fell from
the end of last month to 10¢
Controversy surrounding
March 1986 saw the share
from 400¢ to 30 six mo

For the half-year to en
1981 total income declined
1% to R561,8m from R6%
dends remained stagnant

LIFEGRO shares were suspended at a low of 190c yesterday, ahead of tomorrow's announcement of the substantial rights issue and rationalisation of the Rembrandt group's life assurance interests.

It was understood the restructuring would involve Lifegro, the Pretoria-based Momentum Life and UBS Insurance Company.

The attention followed shifts in Lifegro's top management in March

Rembrandt's reported dissatisfaction with Lifegro's involvement in the Fenton investment scheme whereby

KAY TURVEY

Lifegro guaranteed investors a 4% return in the first year and tax avoidance in Lifegro. Shareholders in the Ciskei. Volkskas group Moment

The possibility of rationalisation has Rembrandt. Volkskas and

been considered since May, when have 8 30% interest in M

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