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S. Africa cops rout crowd with tear gas

By Nathaniel Sheppard Jr.
Chicago Tribune

SOWETO, South Africa—Representatives of three warring black liberation organizations met here Sunday in a conciliatory gesture, but afterward police sprayed tear gas to disperse a homeward-bound crowd of about 1,000.

Violence also marred similar meetings elsewhere in the country as tens of thousands of blacks assembled at prayer services to condemn internal black divisions and appeal for unity.

Police reported looting, rioting and arson in black townships east of Johannesburg and in eastern Cape province. In Port Alfred, they found the body of a man who apparently had been burned to death.

Two men were killed over the weekend in Duduza, east of Johannesburg. One was shot by police Saturday, and the other was shot Sunday by a shopkeeper whose store was being attacked.

At the Soweto meeting, organized by church leaders, including Anglican Bishop Desmond Tutu, participants discussed the prospect of joint missions to troubled areas of the country to defuse tensions and show solidarity. Representatives of the United Democratic Front [UDF], Azanian People's Organization [Azapo] and Inkatha met at the Regina Mundi Catholic Church in this black township of 1.4 million people a few miles south of Johannesburg.

In a series of emotional speeches separated by rousing spiritual singing, representatives of the three groups and cler-

gymen from several denominations admonished the overflow audience of about 2,000 people to focus on the issue on which all blacks can agree: the need for liberation from apartheid.

They warned the audience not to be tricked into confrontations over methodology.

The divisions among the three groups have led to much violence in recent weeks, including the deaths of two Azapo officials and two children of an Azapo supporter.

The blacks have been particularly angry at government-imposed community councils, which they view as insensitive to their needs and designed to maintain the status quo. This resentment has prompted some

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of the violence.

In addition, Inkatha, a Zulu organization that favors working with the white South African minority toward a gradual inclusion of blacks in government, is widely resented among non-Zulu blacks.

"The UDF has never been our problem, for we are both fighting for the liberation of our land. Capitalism is our problem," said George Wauchope, head of the political education secretariat of Azapo.

Wauchope said members of his organization would be willing to travel with UDF members to troubled areas of the country such as the eastern Cape to work for reconciliation and an end to violence within black townships.

Murphy Morobe, a UDF executive from the Transvaal region, suggested that the friction between black political groups was in part the result of government actions.

"The government is desperate and it will do everything within its power to stop us, including trying to get us to fight against each other," Morobe said.

In his keynote address, Bishop Tutu said that "freedom is in our hands, but we are delaying our liberation" by engaging in internal conflicts. "The reason we are not free today is that we have allowed ourselves to be divided."

When the crowd began to head home after the 3½-hour meeting, police began photographing those leaving. Police then sprayed tear gas into the crowd from two vehicles with large fans mounted on them to spread the gas.

Tear-gassing and the firing of sometimes fatal rubber bullets by police have become a standard feature of meetings and funerals held by blacks. In the last two months, police and military personnel on several occasions have tear-gassed and fired upon blacks as they tried to hold funerals for victims of police shootings or internal community strife.

Wife Says Political Prisoner Harassed in South Africa

5/20/85

By Allister Sparks
Special to The Washington Post

BRANDFORT, South Africa—Nelson Mandela, imprisoned leader of South Africa's black underground, says he is being harassed for rejecting an offer of conditional release made by President Pieter W. Botha three months ago, his wife, Winnie Mandela, said in a recent interview.

She said he told her during a recent visit in Cape Town's Pollsmoor Prison that he and four other leaders of the outlawed African National Congress imprisoned there have had their lives "made very difficult" since they rejected the offer.

"Nelson told me that they were being continually harassed in an indirect way," Winnie Mandela said in the interview, adding that she had been searched by prison guards before the visit for the first time in the 23 years that she has been visiting her husband in prison.

Asked for an official response to Winnie Mandela's allegations, a Prisons Department spokesman, Lt. Col. Danie Immelman, said Saturday: "Mandela's treatment does not differ from any other prisoner in the same category. . . . The same applies to visitors to Mandela."

Reuter reported the following:

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Bishop Desmond Tutu called yesterday for black unity as members of two rival antiapartheid groups clashed in the coastal city of Port Elizabeth.

Witnesses said at least one member of the Azanian People's Organization was seriously injured and another apparently was abducted in the fighting with members of the United Democratic Front.

The incident took place against a background of continued rioting. Police said two men died in unrest at Duduza black township east of Johannesburg. One was shot to death Saturday by police and another was killed by a shopkeeper whose store was being attacked.

Cuomo Proposes State Sell Stock In Concerns Tied to South Africa

Special to The New York Times

5/20/85

ALBANY, May 19 — New York State should eliminate billions of dollars of investments in companies that do business in South Africa and should sharply limit all dealings with such concerns, Governor Cuomo said today.

"I have concluded," the Governor declared, "that New York State should adopt a comprehensive and responsible strategy to demonstrate the abhorrence of our residents to the pernicious system of apartheid."

Mr. Cuomo said he would soon propose legislation to require the divestiture, over the next five years, of billions of dollars in state funds. These include about \$4.4 billion in employees' and teachers' pension funds, now invested in hundreds of American companies doing business in South Africa.

Last week, Assembly Speaker Stanley Fink, a Brooklyn Democrat, of-

fered his own proposal for divestiture. The Governor said today he believed that the differences between the two plans could be worked out.

A spokesman for Warren M. Anderson, Republican of Binghamton and the majority leader of the Senate, said today that the Senator abhorred apartheid and would look at the proposals very carefully.

The Governor said that under the envisioned legislation, the State Comptroller and the trustees of the pension funds would be obliged to divest holdings in a series of steps.

Code of Principles

By 1986, the state would begin to divest holdings in concerns doing business directly with the Government of South Africa or Namibia, with some exceptions, and with any of the 210 American companies that employ black South Africans but have not signed a code that commits them to work for better lives for these employees. The territory of South-West Africa, also known as Namibia, is controlled by South Africa.

The code, known as the Sullivan Principles, is named for the Rev. Leon Sullivan of Philadelphia. It has been signed by about 140 of the 350 American

In Reversal, Church Council Backs S. African Divestment

HARTFORD, Conn.—The United Church of Christ's Board for World Ministries reversed a long-standing policy yesterday and called for selling the church's holdings in corporations with "direct investment" in South Africa.

Taking the action at its annual meeting, the United States' oldest overseas mission agency estimated the decision could cost it 10 percent of the its annual \$2 million investment income. The decision also relates to institutions that provide loans, services or credits to the racially segregated country.

The matter is to go before the church's 15th General Synod, the denomination's highest deliberative body, when it meets June 27 to July 3 in Iowa.

Audrey Smock, the board's secretary for world issues, said the board's action was prompted by a sharp escalation of repression in South Africa, resulting in mass arrests, detentions and killings of blacks. For 15 years, the group has maintained a policy of only "planned and limited divestment."

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