

Mandela |
won't talk

to Briton .

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From Chicago Ti :

CAPE TOWN, South Africaâ\200\224
Jailed black leader Nelson Mande-
la does not want to meet with Bri-

tainâ\200\231s foreign secretary, Sir Geof-:

frey Howe, Mandelaâ\200\231s wife told
reporters Friday. ;

Winnie Mandela met for an
hour with her husband at
Pollsmoor Prison Friday morning
and quoted him as saying he
would â\200\234not be in a position to
meetâ\200\235 the British envoy during his

visit to South Africa, scheduled for -

later this month.

Mrs. Mandela said her own view
was that â\200\234there is no point what-
soever in meeting with him. No
black leader of any relevance will
waste his time by seeing yet anoth-
er British â\200\230eminent personâ\200\231 who
has come to prescribe to us how
we should solve our problems.

â\200\234Margaret Thatcher has no right
whatsoever to prescribe to us how
we should suffer,â\200\235 she added.

Britain is one of South Africaâ\200\231s
main trading partners, and Prime

â\200\230Minister Thatcher has opposed â\200\230
calls by some other, Europeanâ\200\231

Community members to impose
sanctions on Pretoria following its
crackdown on black opponents.

Pretoria had indicated it would -

allow Howe to visit Mandela, a
leader of the outlawed African Na-
tional Congress who has been in
prison since 1964.

Howe wound up his three-nation
tour Friday, saying he was cau-
tiously hopeful his mediation bid
could end the violence sweeping
South Africa.

He spoke to reporters after a 90-minute meeting in Maputo with socialist President Samora Machel of Mozambique, the last stop of a European Community-inspired tour which also took him to Zambia and Zimbabwe. ;

Howe will visit South Africa for talks with President P.W. Botha on July 23 and 29.)

In London, a diplomat said Mandela made an impassioned

plea in May to a South African !

Cabinet minister for direct talks to prevent a worsening conflict in South Africa.

Justice Minister H.J. Coetsee was accompanying a delegation

from the Commonwealth that wasâ\200\231

visiting' Mandela in prison.

Mandela told Coetsee that much of South Africaâ\200\231s. trouble had to . do with the total lack of personal contact between the white leaders in power and the black leadership in jail and exile.

Coetsee appeared embarrassed,

the London source said, and tried:

to excuse himself, but Mandela urged him to hear him out. Knowing one another as human beings, Mandela continued, would not resolve all the issues between

them but it would represent a |,

major advance. -

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very day in the responsible
estern media, when we

read a dispatch from South
Africa, we are given a warning in-
forming us that the report has been
subject to censorship.

Yet the fuss over South Africaâ\200\231s
censorship sadly highlights how un-
usual South Africa has been in the
past. It is one of the handful of
African countries that has tolerated
any degree of a free press. Most of
Africa does not.

Senegal has probably the freest
press in Africa. The newspapers
regularly accuse the government of
corruption and even print cartoons
that mock government leaders.

In Nigeria, there is a long tradi-
tion of a free press. Even when
there have been military govern-
ments, the press has been fairly
unconstrained. However, two years
ago, when the army overthrew a
democratically elected government,
it overreacted and imprisoned a
large number of journalists, includ-
ing the celebrated writer Tay So-
larin. But the regime was itself

quickly overthrown by a rebellion
within its ranks, and the traditional
freedom of the press was restored.
But these are the exceptions.
Mostly, governments tend to run
the media themselves or, as in Ken-
ya, where one major independent
newspaper exists, owned by the
Aga Khan, keep it on a close rein.
According to Claude Wathier,
chief editor of Agence France
Press, who has made a special
study of the African press, the re-
sult is an exodus of African journal-
ists to London and Paris, where
they run rather good magazines.
In Paris, there is the moderately
conservative Jeune Afrique and the
very left-wing Afrique-Asie. In
London there are the more centrist
Africa, New Africa and West Afri-
ca. All have cosmopolitan staffs,
but tend to be African dominated.
Jeune Afrique has a Tunisian
chairman, a Guinean editor and a
Madagascan star reporter. Though
often seized at the airport, they do

circulate, sometimes legally, sometimes smuggled in.
There is also a network of radio covering African affairsâ\200\224the BBC,

Censorship makes Africa

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Radio France International, Deutsche Welle and Voice of America, and the less popular Chinese and Soviet overseas broadcasts.

It is true, in this milieu of deprivation, that readers and listeners tend to treat the BBC, Jeune Afrique, etc., as the Bible. Desperately, African governments have tried to counter this with the development of the Pan-African News Agency. This collects material from all the domestic news agencies and distrib-

utes it without modification. This |.

was the only practical course in a continent which is riddled by conflict, yet where governments control the news in each country. So, if a paper in country X is interested in covering the war between, say, Burkina Faso and Mali, it can take the truth according to Burkina Faso or Mali. This is hardly a recipe for credibility.

South Africaâ\200\231s new press censorship laws are only remarkable in that it has taken so long to fall in with the rest of Africa. Can Africa | expect freedom in South Africa when it is so constricted and con- | strained itself?

Newsday

JOHANNESBURGâ\200\224Thirty-two activists, jailed without trial under South Africaâ\200\231s emergency regulations, have smuggled out from their cell an angry hand-written letter declaring they are on a hunger strike.

The letter, dated July 7, surfaced as the government information bureauâ\200\224the only legal source of information under the state of emergencyâ\200\224reported police killed 10 people described as â\200\234terroristsâ\200\235 in (tiwo incidents Thursday and yesterday.

ay.

That brought to 146 the number of people reported killed in unrest or clashes with police since the state of emergency was imposed.

The detaineesâ\200\231 letter, from Cell A in Modderbee Prison outside Johannesburg, said they were being held â\200\234in appalling and extremely disgustingâ\200\235 conditions, and added, â\200\234We have decided to embark on hunger strike as from the 7th July, 1986. The reason being that we protest and demand that the state of emergency should be lifted,â\200\235 and that â\200\234all detainees be released.â\200\235

Since President Pieter W. Botha declared a national state of emergency June 12, at least 2,000 people are known to have been jailed, without access to lawyers or courts. And since under the emergency regulations their names are not permitted to be mentioned or pub-

lished, hundreds of people have

UN conference
demands Namibia
be independent

VIENNAâ\200\224A United Nations conference on Namibia ended here yesterday with adoption of a strongly worded resolution calling for independence for the South African-controlled territory and criticizing Western states for refusing to adopt sanctions against Pretoria.

Western delegates were unhappy with the resolution, particularly its

calls for support for armed struggle against the South African presence in Namibia (South-West Africa) and at specific criticism of Britain and the United States.

The resolution condemned the illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa, South African military raids against neighboring countries, particularly Angola, and the formation of a pro-Pretoria interim government in Namibia.

It also denounced U.S. and British vetos during United Nations Security Council votes on sanctions against South Africa.

South Africa administers Namibia under a mandate that expired 20 years ago. The UN in 1976 passed a resolution calling on South Africa to withdraw and establishing a plan for the independence of Namibia.

South Africa accepted the plan but then said it must be linked to withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. The UN rejected that.

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES,. Saturday, July 12, 1986 5

Jailed S. Africans
start hunger strike

Smuggled note
says 32 inmates
rejecting food

been reported missing from their homes without a trace.

The note, which was slipped anonymously to editors of the independent Weekly Mail on Thursday, is the first direct communique in the month-old emergency from the many jails where the activists are being held. :

The hunger strike, said the detainees, was to demand the scrapping of all pre-conditions attached to visits, access to the prison store, exercise time, medical attention and hospital appointments, access to clothes and toiletries and permission to study, as well as being a protest against the quality of prison food.

A representative from the government's prison service dismissed the grievances, saying the 32 prisoners were simply seeking publicity.

. It is clear that these so-called hunger strikes are a calculated effort to obtain maximum publicity for propaganda value, said Lt. Col. A. Van Vuuren. It sometimes does happen that detainees go on so-called hunger strikes, either on

their own or by instigation from outside.

Many of those who signed the letter with yours in the national struggle, are well-known militants from the United Democratic Front, , the largest anti-apartheid coalition, whose members have been hardest hit by the emergency arrests. &

Although the signatories' names - may not be published under restrictions on the press, when checked against lists of political detainees collected by the Detainees Parents Support Committee, an independent monitoring group, = nearly half appear to have been missing from the lists. This suggests that the 2,000 activists known ' by the DPSC to have been jailed could represent only a fraction of the true figure.

In the latest violence reported by - the government, the information bureau said six suspected terrorists were killed in a gun battle with police after running a roadblock not far from the border with Botswana on Thursday. :

Four others were reported killed ' yesterday near King Williams ' Town, in the southeastern part of the country, when they opened fire il after their car was stopped by police.

The bureau also said there were .

at least two deaths in clashes between

tween between rival black groups in the suburban Johannesburg township of Soweto.

Perspective Chirce DEFerder (3 Jvly Lot
Why are Africaâ\200\231s lyaderâ\200\230Sâ\200\230fqulet? >

by Kofi Alnaji Opoku Last of a two-part series Evropean languages have supplanted African
ones as the language of both government and
(Mr. Opokuis a free-lance writer living in Chicago.) e I s it
From the negative standpoint, the silence from Africaâ\200\231s and the totality of what ha
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leaders could be interpreted to mean that they have learned i"Western Civilizationâ\200\235
â\200\231 softened and continues to/

their lesson very well. That lesson is the acknowledgment :
onfe l:{ne strength of the extg.rnal stranglehold over the conti- â\200\235f:': 'n p?n.mh:l.;
â\200\234 the f:lm for eventual oy
â\200\234The majority of Africaâ\200\231s educated elite has been raisedon Unsurprisingly,
the unofficial national anthem of an
liberal democratic ideas and decidely reflect a Western African country has become â\200
\234Foreign Exchange Short-
bias. They are as enthusiastic as the external master in age.â\200\235 This reflects the ga
p between the prices of the finish-
labeling as â\200\234â\200\230communistâ\200\235 any leader who did not follow the ed and i
mported goods and the raw materials Africa ex-
script of subservience charted for the country. ports. O :
| European languages have supplanted African ones as the What an Africans calls â\200\234â
\200\230modernityâ\200\235 is, in large measure,
language of both government and commerce. The Christian an affirmation of the totality of f
oreign institutional control
religion which is supported by secular props like money, over his land. The true controller
s of the African economies
technology and the totality of what has become known as have become the IMF, the World Bank
and their
â\200\234Western Civilizationâ\200\235 softened and continues to soften the mouthpiece of-
xenophobic newsmen and women spewing
heart of the African for eventual capitalist pentration. bowdlerished interpretation of hap
penstance and calling it
It is often said that in Africa, â\200\230â\200\234â\200\230trade follows the flag.â\200
\235 â\200\230â\200\230journalism!â\200\235 X

What is more true though is that the flag created what has Given this reality, many an Afr
ican leader has decided to

become known as â\200\234tradeâ\200\231â\200\231 to Africa. W@ the line actively. He hears
a lot of evil, and he sees a lotâ\204¢

- 4â\200\230African economies have validity only e nt the ~of evil, but he will speak no ev
il himself. Africaâ\200\231s silence

European countries needed them-either as raw material thrives from Western success in curbi
ng â\200\230â\200\234â\200\230communism,â\200\235 to

- \ producers or as markets for surplus goods. the extent that â\200\230â\200\234communismâ
\200\235 has come to mean any |
> Devoid of technology in the modernistic sense, the - challenge to white supremacy on the
continent. :

African countries have come to depend on foreign countries = What is sad about our times is

not ;hli lack of self-

for all their significant and insignificant finished goods. Add restraint on the part of the international uppercrust but the
a shrinking productive base, runaway inflation, flight of the increasing realization that those whose resistance alone can
| educated, an increasing population, drought and an en-' _ensure a better world seem to be
losing the will to- fight
croaching Sahara Desert. back. ; :

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'S, Africa

Continued from page 1

~ workers and Yqung radicals, and
~ said they believed a.sĩ¬\202mâ\200\231a% as
seven people were killed.
was no official confirmation of
deaths. g ; :

Information bureau spokesman
David Venter, in analyzing the
~ first month of the emergency lm-
osed June 12, said the number of
violent incidents gieclined 66 per-
cent compared with May.

He also said that, in the last
week, deaths were down 13 per-
cent, injuries 38 percent and at-
tacks on security forces 32 percent

in comparison with the first week
of the emergency.

It is estimated 139 people _have
been killed, excluding casualties 1
fights between tribal factions.

Venter said some killings later
turn out to be criminal rather than
â\200\234unrest 'relatcd.,â\200\235 a phrase embra-
cing daily anuâ\200\224apartheid violence

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ere .

and related conflicts among blacks
that have cost more than 2,000
lives since September, 1984.

The private South African Insti-
tute of Race Relations provided
the overall total of more than
2,000 through early July, and said
it was compiled largely from po-
lice figures.

Venter said 62 percent of deaths
since the emergency declaration
resulted from fighting between
blacks, and the remainder from .
actions by security forces.

In another development, an American missionary couple said they were ordered to leave South Africa by next week.

Brian and Susan Burchfield, both ministers of the American Lutheran Church, were sent from Washington state on their first overseas assignment in January to help a Cape Town pastor who has 600 mixed-race parishioners.

Mrs. Burchfield said the order came from the Ministry of Home Affairs, without explanation, and that their work permit was recently renewed until Oct. 9.

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. a British official. Page 4.

S. Africa
police kill
10 blacks

2. Jul |
JOHANNESBURG, S
Africa—Police said Friday they killed 10 alleged black insurgents in two gun battles, and Johannesburg's Soweto reported 7

; s
black in fights between

The government said violence decreased dramatically in the first month of its nationwide

; state of emergency. ;
— National police headquarters in Pretoria said four were shot Friday morning

Source said it did not explode, not .

— Police returned fire and killed one man, but the others sped

Jailed black leader Nelson
Mandela refuses to meet :/ttr:

away. Another patrol stopped
the car 20 miles away; no one
more blacks were slain in fierce
shooting. The fourth man was
dead. The car with hand
grenades, 47
assault rifles

At least one of the dead men

was known to be a member of

the outlawed African National
Congress, the main guerrilla

group fighting against
aparttheid. The white rule in

In the village of Allday near

the Botswana border on Thurs-
day, a patrol killed six men
of being ANC guerrillas

in a fierce gun battle that left a

person wounded.

The Bureau for Information

said the casualties brought

the suspected ANC

TS or in

that; the S captured
residents of Soweto, Johan-

nesburg's satellite black city of

million people, reported street

fighting between migrant black

Continued on page 2

Friday morning | |
ped a car near
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