

ANC REJECTS ET'S ULTIMATUM

THE CITIZEN 15/06/91

**Threat to sack
Blacks if demands
are not met**

By Keith Abendroth,
Martin McGhee and
Sapa

THE African National Congress, yesterday rejected an ultimatum by Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging leader, Mr Eugene Terre'Blanche, that all Blacks, employed by Right-wingers would be sacked if the ANC did not meet its demands.

A similar ultimatum was addressed to the government.

At an international

Press conference in Pretoria, Mr Terre'Blanche said the AWB would not enter the pending harvesting season if:

- The government did not approach the AWB and ask for negotiations aimed at setting up an independent Boerestaat; and

- The ANC did not immediately call off its economic warfare against the country, and withdraw all Black squatters — described as its "Peking and Moscow-backed terrorists".

The African National Congress called Mr Ter-

re'Blanche's threats a pipe-dream and challenged him to "just try it".

"Terre'Blanche is provocative and over-estimates his power," the ANC's Department of Information and Publicity spokesman, Mr Saki Macozoma, said.

The ANC did not take the threat of mass dismissals of Black workers by Right-wing sympathisers seriously, but warned Mr Terre'Blanche not to forget that the majority of South African consumers

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Marches and services to remember

Soweto Day

Saturday News Reporter

TOMORROW several marches and church services will take place to commemorate Soweto Day.

The ANC is planning to honour the day — which commemorates the 1976 student uprising in Soweto — with a total of 41 rallies whose theme will be jobs, peace and freedom.

The marches are expected to be the most widespread since February 2 last year, the ANC said, and would culminate in the handing over of a memorandum to President de Klerk.

The Inkatha Freedom Party is to march in protest of unequal distribution of development aid and to call for the immediate start of multi-party negotiations in Tongaat tomorrow.

Inkatha regional organiser Themba Ndulini said Inkatha members from Ndwedwe would present a memorandum to the SAP in Tongaat.

A Government spokesman said the police had taken notice of the planned nationwide protests and had warned organisers that they had to satisfy the legal requirements to ensure that all the protests and gatherings were lawful.

Police have called on all people taking part in the marches not to act violently or commit other illegal acts.

In Natal rallies will be held at Umlazi, Clermont, Stanger, Inanda, Amanzimtoti, Port Shepstone, Georgedale and KwaMashu.

The Anglican Church of St Mary's in Greyville, Durban, will mark the day with an unusual service which will include "cameos" to characterise each year since the Soweto uprising.

The service, at 6pm, will include prayer, poetry, dance, song and the lighting of candles to respond to such events as the referendum, the new constitution and the declaration of a state of emergency.

Inkatha complaint

LONDON: The Inkatha Freedom Party yesterday lodged an official complaint with a British media watchdog, alleging the Independent, a London-based newspaper, was denying it the right of reply to reported allegations of collusion between the SADF and Inkatha in the violence in South African townships.

In a letter to the Press Complaints Commission, the IFP's representative in London, Mr Ben Skosana, claimed the paper had refused to publish a letter rebutting allegations the SADF was supplying Inkatha with arms for intimidation.

This, he alleged, was an attempt to create British hostility towards Inkatha.—Sapa

Minister slates disinvestment

KWAZULU's leaders will continue to oppose disinvestment in South Africa, KwaZulu deputy Minister of Welfare and Pensions, Prince Gideon Zulu, said in Ulundi yesterday.

Speaking in the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly, Prince Gideon said he hoped all other organisations would join them in opposing disinvestment some day.

Prince Gideon said he was worried about the welfare of South Africans if the new South Africa fell in the hands of organisations which showed little interest in the economic well-being of its people.

Referring to the issue of the returning exiles, he said their plight would be made worse by the insistence on sanctions.—Political Reporter

GOVERNMENT BOLSTERING INKATHA'S IMAGE: CLAIM

LONDON: Claims by former SADF officer Nico Basson that South Africa was involved in a destabilisation campaign to prevent a Swapo victory in the Namibian elections and to bolster Inkatha's image have been supported by a group of observers in the Namibian independence process.

Writing in The Independent after the newspaper had published Mr Basson's allegations that South Africa had extended its destabilisation into the Republic by arming Inkatha followers in their

battle with ANC members, the group said "hopes for democratic change in South Africa are in danger of succumbing to the forces of manipulation that almost derailed the United Nations peace process in Namibia".

The group consisted of Mr Graham Hopwood, of the Church Action on Namibia, Mr Ian Linden of the Catholic Institute for International Relations, Ms Alison Harvey of the Namibia Christian Exchange and Mr Malcolm Harper, the director of the United Nations

Association.

"If Basson's revelations are given credence, as The Independent's correspondent believes they should be, then the gravest implications are for South Africa itself. Those who like to dismiss these claims out of hand should remember that it was revealed last September that Inkatha members were trained at secret bases in Namibia's Caprivi Strip — since 1986.

"F.W. de Klerk's responsibility for Operation Agree sends a clear message to the British government and the European Community that

now is not the time to relax pressure and remove existing measures against Pretoria," the group said.

Meanwhile, writing in the Guardian newspaper, poet and former political activist Breyten Breytenbach accused South Africa's "securocrats" of freely practicing "the law of the arbitrary and the total art of subversion".

The political violence in South Africa was part of a "war of attrition" against the South African people, he claimed.—Foreign Service

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NELSON AND WINNIE: Their marriage has had to withstand long years of separation caused by banning orders, detentions and jail.

The Mandelas: love story or tragedy?

Saruman Srian 15/06/91

YESTERDAY Nelson and Winnie Mandela celebrated their 33rd wedding anniversary.

For some, their marriage will go down in history as one of the great love stories — but others believe it is a "tragic union" that has had to weather some severe batterings.

On the political front, the partnership has endured the detentions of Nelson and Winnie, nearly three decades of imprisonment for Nelson, the banishment of Winnie to Brandfort in the Free State, and the political isolation of Winnie by the Mass Democratic Movement, which included the United Democratic Front and Cosatu.

More recently, Winnie's trial for kidnapping, in which she was given a six-year jail sentence (she is currently out on bail), has also taken its toll.

When 40-year-old Nelson and his 22-year-old second bride, Winnie, took their marriage vows on June 14 1958, few suspected the larger-than-life role their love story would play in the black struggle.

The marriage was only four years old when ANC leader Mr Mandela was jailed for five years on Robben Island for incitement to strike and leaving the country without a permit. The next year, during the Rivonia trial, he was sentenced to life imprisonment for sabotage, along with Walter Sisulu and others.

Right after the trial the stunningly beautiful Winnie, who had little political experience and not held any official ANC position, became a figurehead for the black struggle. In 1964 she and Albertina Sisulu, Walter's wife, were banned.

In 1977 Winnie was banished to Brandfort for eight years. This fanned black anger and heightened media attention.

On the personal front the marriage has survived much

PAT DEVEREAUX

trauma, including family objections to Mr Mandela's taking a second wife and objections from Winnie's family over her youthful marriage to a man with a high political profile.

In Fatima Meer's book "Higher Than Hope" Mr Mandela's first wife, Eveline, tells how she first heard of the start of the love affair that has captured international attention:

"In a way I continued to delude myself, that since there were children between us, there was a marriage between us.

"But this changed when a friend drew my attention to a notice in the paper a whole year and more after I had moved out of my house. 'Your husband is divorcing you,' she said.

She was dazzled by the bronze giant with his mop of thick matted hair, parted on the side, and a smile that affected her in a way nothing else had up to that point in her life.

"I froze, unable to respond. I had heard vaguely that Nelson was going out with a social worker from Baragwanath Hospital. It was just one more woman, I had thought. He would discard her like he had the others."

Nelson had three children from his marriage to Eveline. Tembi, their elder son, was killed in a motor accident; Makgatho, the younger son has joined his mother in running her Transkei store; and Makaziwe, the oldest of Nelson's daughters, now lives in Massachusetts with her husband and

three children.

The young Winnie Madikizela first set eyes on Nelson as she waited for a bus. He was in a passing car with two medical students. She met him a while later after her hostel mate, Adelaide Tsukudu, who was going out with the equally famous Oliver Tambo at the time, introduced her.

She was dazzled by the bronze giant with his mop of thick matted hair, parted on the side, and a smile that affected her in a way nothing else had up to that point in her life.

The magnetic attraction between the two meant the couple were soon seeing a lot of each other. He invited her to use his office if she needed a quiet place for studying.

Nelson's feelings for Winnie were revealed after an incident one night at the Bantu Men's Social Centre. They were attending a fund-raising ANC dance; suddenly knives were flashed and shots fired. Winnie ducked under a table. Nelson was there, beside her, dragging her out, leading her into his car. She could not help but notice his concern for her safety.

At the Drill Hall, where the preparatory examination for the Rivonia Treason Trial was in progress, Nelson first introduced the woman he was going to marry to his friends. They were all charmed by her, but taking Nelson aside a friend said to him: "Such intimidating and seductive beauty does not go with a revolutionary." Nelson laughed and, turning to her, asked if she had heard. She was looking at him and smiling, but when he repeated what had been said she flared up in anger. "You have no sense of humour," he chastised her.

Nelson's divorce from Eveline came through in 1957 and in early 1958 he announced his pending marriage to Winnie.

He did not propose — he took it for granted they would marry. That was what the long courtship had been all about, according to Fatima Meer's book.

Nelson then told Winnie she should inform her parents of her decision. Plucking up courage to tell her parents, Winnie produced a photograph of Nelson in boxing gear. "Ma," she said "this man wants to marry me. I've come to get your approval because I also want to marry him." Hearing that it was Nelson Mandela, her mother said she was mad — the man had a charge of treason hanging over his head.

Winnie's father said he admired Nelson and would be the last to stand in his way, but he said Nelson had chosen a difficult road and she was far too inexperienced to accompany him on it. He then blessed her anyway.

They were all charmed by her, but taking Nelson aside a friend said to him: "Such intimidating and seductive beauty does not go with a revolutionary."

They were married in Bizana on June 14 1958. Nelson had to apply for a relaxation of his banning order so he could attend his own wedding.

During that first year of their marriage the treason trial dragged on and because of the time it took, the legal practice of Tambo and Mandela had almost closed down. The family struggled to survive on a meagre income.

In July 1958 Winnie became pregnant and in October she marched with the ANC Women's League on the offices of the Native Commissioner, protesting against passes. The

women were arrested and locked up in police cells.

During the second week of their imprisonment, Winnie began bleeding profusely but Albertina Sisulu allayed her anxiety. The bleeding stopped.

On February 4 1959, Winnie's daughter Zenani was born. She miscarried her second pregnancy but a couple of months later was pregnant again with a second daughter, Zindzi.

The strong-willed Winnie had vowed never to lose her individuality. But Madiba, as she calls him, was overpowering.

"In the little time I spent with him, I discovered too soon how quickly I would lose my identity because of his overpowering personality — you just fizzled into being his appendage, with no name and no individuality except Mandela's. Mandela's wife, Mandela's child, Mandela's niece. I vowed that none of this would apply to me," Winnie said.

She was true to her word. She has never stood in Nelson Mandela's shadow.

Winnie now commands almost as much media attention as her husband.

There is a deep loyalty between them. She has stood by her husband throughout his imprisonment and Mr Mandela stood by his wife during her trial — at great risk to his political profile. After she was convicted he was immediately at her side, kissed her on the lips and asked how she was.

However, it remains to be seen whether the romance can outlast still more batterings lurking on the horizon. Mrs Mandela faces six years' jail for kidnapping — if her appeal against her conviction and sentence fails. And there have been ongoing rumours of unfaithfulness and lately of a rift between the couple — strongly refuted by the ANC.