

eï¬\201fi¬\2011-

o O
was

Se?ret witness testifies

T VESS
By 11

commissar

Witness Reporter

A MAN appearing in the
Supreme Court, College
Road, on charges relat-
ing to terrorism, had
been a commissar of a
tactics platoon at an
ANC training camp in
Angola, a witness said

yesterday.
As commissar the ac-
cused man, Mr Ntela

Richard Skhosana (23) of
Estcourt, was respons-
ible for the â\200\234political up-
gradingâ\200\235 of the platoon,
the witness said.

Witness A was giving
evidence in camera in

| the trial in which Mr Sk-

hosana and four others
are charged on 14 counts
relating to terrorism,
taking part in ANC acti-
vities, illegal possession
of machineguns or rifles,
ammunition, grenades
and bombs, and unlawful
publications.

The witness, who may
not be identified, ad-
mitted to leaving South

â\200\230AfricainJuly 1985 to join

the ANC and to having
undergone military
training in Tanzania and
Angola.

â\200\234] was doing my basic
training at Caculana, An-
gola, in April 1986 when 1

came to know (Mr Skhosana) as commissar,â\200\235 the witness said.

â\200\234As commissar he would also have been second-in-charge of the platoon and responsible for seeing that the mem-

bers of the platoon dis- Â°

cussed politics and read

books rel'ating to poli- |

tics.â\200\235

The witness said Mr Skhosana left Caculana in October, 1986.

â\200\234I returned to South Africa in October 1987,â\200\235 the witness said. â\200\234My job was to reconnoitx;e mili-

tary bases, electricity plants, police stations, and the movement of soldiers in my operational area.â\200\235 The witness did not identify the â\200\234operational areaâ\200\235.

â\200\234My instructions also were to eliminate people hostile to the community â\200\224 like a troublesome policeman or an employer who ill-treats employees.â\200\235 â\200\230

However, seven days after infiltrating the target area, the witness encountered problems.

â\200\234People were hostile to me. No one had been mobilised, as I had been told. I found myself all alone ... I was detained on October 26, 1987, and released in February 1988." ;

Under cross-examination by defence counsel Mr Pius Langa, the witness said: â\200\234I was sold out by the ANC. When I got into (South Africa) I did not have anything to use in case of a fight. All I had was my coat.â\200\235

The accused, who have pleaded not guilty, are:

Mr Derrick Zakhele
Muthwa (27) of Empang-
eni, Mr Mafi Percival
Mgobhozi (21) of Durban,

Mr Skhosana, Mr Vivani |

Isidore Vincent Made
(40) of Amanzimtoti and
Mr Livingstone Nhlanhla
Mathaba (26) of Mtunzini.
The trial continues.

APRARB_3B_o__

2% (DT

i G383

The Star Frida

BONN â\200\224 Four days of frank talking in Leverkusen near Cologne have dispelled many of the myths that Soviet and Afrikaner academics and a party from the ANC believed about each other and this has become the basis for future talks.

While the ANC has indicated that its armed struggle will continue, there are signs that the organisation is placing increasing emphasis on negotiated political solutions. And the ~ Soviet delegation has made repeated references to the desirability of a negotiated settlement.

Most South Africans at the talks have said they are going home with a much clearer understanding of ANC perceptions of the South African question and a definite conviction that the banned organisation is a vital player in South Africaâ\200\231s political future.

Further rounds of talks between liberal South African whites and members of the ANC leadership are planned and Idasaâ\200\231s Dr Alex Boraine, convener of the Leverkusen gathering, said the next meeting would probably take place

e

Four days of Idasa talks dispel some mutual suspicions

BY SUE LEEMAN,
The Starâ\200\231s Foreign News Service D{
The historic meeting between Soviet and Afrikaner academi
and an ANC group has ended with all sides affirming their commitment to building a non-racial democracy in South Africa.

A

&q year.

In his closing remarks at a

press conference here, Dr Boraine said the Leverkusen talks had succeeded in breaking down stereotypes.

â\200\234I think we came a little closer to the development of a .

climate that could lead to negotiations, the end of apartheid and the birth of a non-racial democracy in South Africaâ\200\231

The five Soviet delegates, all academics specialising in southern African issues, stressed that the Soviet Union had no intention of establishing relations with Pretoria until apartheid was dead.

However, team leader Dr Vasili Solodovnikov said they remained committed to talking to whites â\200\234who support the liberation struggleâ\200\235.

Some observers are reading this as a shift in emphasis and.

believe there is a growing Soviet awareness that whites

are an important part of the: peace process.

A buoyant ANC publicity chief, Mr Thabo Mbeki, is clearly delighted at the contact between Afrikaners and the Soviet academics.

Idasa chairman Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert said he be-

lieved the value of the confer- .

ence lay first in the discussion of attitudes to apartheid

â\200\230and, secondly, in â\200\234placing the position of the Soviet Union and the ANC in perspective to bring about change away from

apartheidâ\200\235.

He clearly does not hold out much hope of a softening of President P W Bothaâ\200\231s opposition to talks of this nature, but said Idasaâ\200\231s task lay in communicating what had happened at the talks to the broader South African community.

:ralking of the future in South Africa ... from left are Mr Thabo Mbeki, ANC secretary for information, Dr Alex Boraine, director of Idasa, and a Soviet expert on South Africa, Dr Vasilii Solodovnikov, at yesterdayâ\200\231s Bonn press conference.

28 Oct. 188

NEWS

Rural health care neglected, KwaZulu minister tells

Witness Reporter

THE level of environmental safety achieved in South Africa's towns and cities is comparable with the best in the world, but the millions of people living in the rural areas have been neglected, KwaZulu's Minister of Health, Dr Frank Mdlalose, said yesterday.

In a paper delivered at the National Environmental Health Conference in Pietermaritzburg, Dr

Mdlalose said health hazards that existed in ancient times were still present in many country areas.

Dr Mdlalose's speech was delivered to the conference delegates, all members of the Health Officers' Association of South Africa, by KwaZulu's Deputy Minister of Health, Mr Nyanga Ngubane.

Expressing concern at the conditions in rural areas, Dr Mdlalose

said: "I would like you to think back for a moment to Edwin Chadwick (19th century British social reformer) and his insistence that health depends on sanitation.

"How many thousands or millions of our people in the rural areas are still without adequate sanitation and its partner, clean and germ-free water?

"How many, especially in the densely-populated informal

settlements around our cities, are without adequate housing or means of garbage disposal?"

Dr Mdlalose criticised the fact that the conference was not dealing with rural inadequacies.

He urged delegates to ensure that the rural sanitation problem was put on next year's conference

agenda. -

In a paper on Malaria Control in Natal and KwaZulu, prepared by

Mr R.H. Short and Mr S.M. Ng-xongo, conference delegates were told that the main objectives of control were: %
Â® to prevent morbidity caused by malaria;

Â® to eliminate or reduce mortality .

astcribt(aid to malaria;

Â® to reduce mosquito vec -

lation. : - AL

These objectives are difficult to

achieve because of the delicate

balance and interaction between the, parasite, vector, human host and environment.

In Natal/KwaZulu the control of the parasite by detection and treatment of malaria infections, and the reduction of the vector population to minimise the potential for disease transmission, is a co-ordinated effort involving constant liaison at both grassroots

level and management level.

The Natal Witness

4

conference