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CITY PRESS, April 1st, 1984

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By KHULU SIBIYA

SECURITY Police
interrogators beat
up a man until both
his ear-drums burst
and he could not

for two weeks.

The man, Mandla
Ndlovu, made this
claim in his evidence in
the trial of Mr Victor
Knox Simelane, 22, a
fourth-year University
of Zululand student
facing charges of fur-
thering the aims of the
banned African Natio-
nal Congress.

Ndlovu told Magis-
trate J D Jaquire in
Ermelo this week that
two members of the
Security Police, Sgt Jo-
hannes de Witt and Sgt
Lisaphi Ngwenya, who
are stationed at Ermelo,
beat him up soon after
he was arrested on

vember 11 last year.

â\200\230During the interro-

on, four guns were
placed in front of me
and I was told to impli-
cate my friend Knox
because he is a uni-
versity student and I
was not educated.

â\200\234But even after the
beatings, I did not
say that Knox sprayed

â\200\230SP beatings
burst my earsâ\200\231

Ngoye studentâ\200\231s ANC
trial told of assaults

ANC slogans on walls,â\200\235
said Ndlovu.

Mr Simelane is alleged to have sprayed ANC slogans which read: â\200\234Apartheid Divides (sic) â\200\224 ANC unitesâ\200\235 and â\200\234Join ANC-Umkhonto We Sizweâ\200\235 and â\200\234Long Live Mandala (Sic) â\200\224 ANCâ\200\235.

Under defence cross-examination Advocate E D Mosenke, Sgt De Witt denied that he beat Mr Ndlovu, but said beating up detainees during interrogation was an old song â\200\224 â\200\230â\200\230so old that it has been sung beforeâ\200\231â\200\231.

He also denied beating up Mr Simelane.

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He said Mr Simelane voluntarily pointed out walls he allegedly sprayed.

â\200\234The accused was even given an option of making a statement to the Security Police or the magistrate. He opted to confess to the magistrate,â\200\235 said Sgt De Witt.

Mr Simelane said he made a statement to the magistrate, because he was assured by Sgt Ngwenya that his case was not serious and he would be sentenced to 30 days in prison or fined R30 or worse.

Judgment will be passed today.

Sebe

steps into

-CISKEI President Le-

nnox Sebe has saved 240 bus company ;:rken from dismissal

The workers were due to be dismissed today â\200\224 to join 300

colleagues laid off
last year because of
the increasing effects
of the Mdantsane
boycott. -

But, President Sebe
asked CTC officials to
postpone the retren-
chments for a month
â\200\234on humanitarian

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Although this will
cost CTC RS00 000
â\200\224 they have already
lost about RS-million
in the boycott â\200\224 the
company has decided
to comply with the re-
quest.

CTC managing di-
rector Hans Kaiser
told City Press he was
not sure how much
longer the boycott
would continue. Com-
pany officials are pre-
sently negotiating
with the commutersâ\200\231
Committee of Ten.

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SUNDAY

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Tribune Reporter

CHIEF Gatsha Buthelezi,
Chief Minister of Kwa-
Zulu, said this week he
had a clear conscience
about giving evidence at
the trial of Dorothy
Nyembe, who was re-
leased last week, and
that he had acted as a
true â\200\234patriotâ\200\235.

On her release after 15
years in jail, Mrs
Nyembe said she was not
bitter or angry that the
Chief Minister had given
evidence against her at
her trial in 1968.

She was convicted of
harbouring a member of
the African National
Congress.

But Chief Buthelezi, in
a letter to the Sunday
Tribune said: â\200\234The over-
all impression an ordi-
nary reader would get
from her statement is
that I was responsible for
her going to jail.â\200\235

He said it was in the
â\200\234national interestâ\200\235 for
young South Africans to
know his role in the cir-
cumstances that led to
Mrs Nyembeâ\200\231s imprison-
ment.

| Chief Buthelezi said he

had been a member of
the African National
Congress before it was
banned.

â\200\234Mrs Nyembe brought
a guerrilla trained in the
use of arms to my home,

KwaPhindangene. She claimed that she was bringing greetings from Mr Moses Mabida, one of the leaders of the ANC's mission in exile in Lusaka. She was, however, accompanied by an ANC insurgent who had just arrived in the country. :

After greetings they asked me to convey a message to Mr M Yengwa in Swaziland that the

insurgents had arrived safely in South Africa. I informed them quite clearly that I was under surveillance by the Security Branch and that it would be a foolish thing for me to do.

They also asked me whether my Natal area extended to the sea, and they expressed a desire to land arms on the coast from ships out at sea. I warned them that the Special Branch was very active and again pointed out how naively foolhardy their talk was.

This behaviour was in violation of the understanding that existed between myself and the ANC's leadership in exile. It was accepted that I should not become involved in the armed struggle.

By law as a chief, I was obliged to report this visit under pain of being arrested under the Terrorism Act of 1967. Mere contact with so-called ANC terrorists was a criminal act punishable by law. I could not obey such a law and keep the

matter to myself.

, Chief Buthelezi said a

Chief Butholzi.' . . acted as patriot

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month and a half later

the Security Police began visiting him and interrogated him about plans to visit Swaziland.

He said he knew someone had implicated him.

At the end of the year |,

he was summoned by the Security Branch-in Empangeni where he was interrogated.

â\200\234It became patently clear that the Security Branch had knowledge of every word of the conversation between myself, Mrs Nyembe and the insurgent. In that interrogation, I acted with all the honour of a patriot.

â\200\234When I was subpoenaed to give evidence I had no option, but to tell the truth.

â\200\234Those who embark on foolhardy ventures, carrying the risk of incarceration in South African jails, must follow their own consciences. We are, however, entitled to object when what they do implicates others who have more important responsibilities in the struggle for liberation.

â\200\230â\200\234â\200\234My conscience is clear and my behaviour

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was impeccable,â\200\235 he said.

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Unity

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ht the flames until firemen arrived and put out