

10 CHICAGO DEFENDER - Tuesday, December 24, 1985

APIRAEC T1 i

Listen to America

by Carolyn L. Bennett

lhveyoubeenliswi- \201ngto\_America?Intbesepasttwo  
weeks when racism ran riot in Southwest Philadelphia?  
Were you listening? :

I know there have been distractions at Geneva, Malta,  
Manila, Pretoria, spiesandcountuspiesfroquhington  
to Jerusalem. But were you listening to Americaâ\200\224when she  
reached back to the racism of the early sixties and brought  
it full force into the streets of â\200\234Brotherly Love,â\200\235 where a  
Black man reigns as mayor of his urban, multi-ricial  
metropolis of the eighties? 38

Iwaslistening-wbenmnamedwhiteterrorlhl:ranriot  
againstanintenacialeouple.vandalizingmeirhomeand  
causing them to shudder in their resolve; and against a  
Black couple, causing them to run for their lives. I was  
listening-when the Black mayor declared a state of  
emergency; and when a Democratic candidate for the  
Mississippims;qrenle&urtheldforthatamwseonference,

Voting Rights and Civil Rights Acts of the nineteen sixties.  
Were you listening to America? : e

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hasprogxmedmtanâ\200\230inchâ\200\235simethedaysonwted  
lunch counters, schools, churches, i ? Con-  
vinced that smoldering fires of racism wait just beneath the  
surface to burst forth in an atmosphere in which governm-  
ent tears away at funddamental structures of Constitution  
and Bill of Rights? Tells the people that Black Americans

supportforsegmigationandrepealofthe-

Racism is very much alive

are getting â\200\230â\200\234â\200\230preferential treatmentâ\200\231â\200\231 in jobs and  
housing?

Paintsrosypicturesofprospei- \201ty.wbenpwertyseepsinat  
everquvelofsociety,exceptthelevelofthemï- \202yrieh?ls  
ï- \202wrewonderthatpeoplemeonfusedandangry? ;

Are you listening to America? Are you listening,  
America? Are you hearing  
oninourland?l.eadeuposhxringinli- \201ghpheeddoingimâ\200\224

freer and freer enterprise

management keep up a  
down, labor is farmed out

andgoodsareimportedathigherpmï- \201tstocorporation.

Leaders talking big talk on international platforms while  
mayor calls a state of emergency, a i is  
bombed, Pretorian style-and hundreds are left homeless  
and running for their lives. America? This too is America.  
Are you listening? : i

People confused, frustrated, angry, sensing their way of  
life thrust away from them by forces over which they have |  
no control reach back to another era for a scapegoat: the  
Black American. And for an attitude and condition:  
Racism against Black Americans. But Black Americans  
are not the cause of our problems. Nor is Racism the cause.  
Keep listening, America. And petition the government for  
resolution of real problems and for redress of justifiable  
grievances. Don't be fooled by  
listening-until you hear America.

and seeing what's really going

futile fight while industries shut  
to countries with cheap labor,

the smoke screen. Keep

-

Freed  
Winnie

Mandela

defiant

on ban

JOHANNESBURG (AP)  
â\200\224Winnie Mandela, still  
pledging to defy a South Af-  
rican government order that  
bars her from Johannesburg  
and its surrounding black  
township of Soweto, leit yes-  
terday for Cape Town and a  
Christmas visit with her im-  
prisoned husband.

Mandela, 50, who was ar-  
rested twice over the week-  
end in Soweto and spent  
Sunday night in jail, was  
freed on her own recogni-  
zance. Magistrate Hymie  
Brandt ordered â\200\230her to ap-  
pear in court Jan. 22 on  
charges of flouting the â\200\234ban-  
ningâ\200\235 order that seeks to  
limit her contacts with other  
anti-apartheid activists.

At her court appearance,  
she said only, â\200\234Your worship,  
I understand English,â\200\235 in re-  
ply to a question from  
Brandt on whether she want-  
ed an interpreter.

Mandela faces rearrest -if  
she returns to Johannes-  
burgâ\200\224as she insisted she  
will.

â\200\234As far as I am concerned  
it [the banning order] is a  
non-issueâ\200\224a law that should  
not be obeyed by any human  
being,â\200\235 Mandela told report-  
ers outside the court.

â\200\234I shall be going back to  
my house in Johannesburg.  
â\200\230 have committed no  
crime,â\200\235 she said later as she

6 whites die

From Sun-Times Wires

DURBAN, South Africaâ\200\224  
A bomb exploded yesterday  
in a resort shopping arcade  
crowded with sun-seekin  
Christmas vacationers, an  
authorities said at least six  
whites were killed.

They said scores of other  
peopleâ\200\224perhaps more than  
60â\200\224were hurt when the  
bomb went off in a trash can  
in the Sanlam Center, 200

ards from the Indian Ocean  
{eaches of Amanzimtoti, 20  
miles â\200\230south of Durban.  
Killed were two women and  
four children.

Black nationalist guerrillas  
were blamed for the bomb-  
ing, the second-worst in  
South African history.

As rescuers rushed among  
dazed, stumbling survivors,  
wounded children in bathing  
suits and â\200\230rubber sandals  
screamed hysterically while  
crawling through pools of

arrived at Cape Town air-  
port.

Mandelaâ\200\231s husband, Nel-  
son, 67, leader of the out-  
lawed African National Con-  
gress guerrilla movement, is  
serving a life term in Cape  
Townâ\200\231s Pollsmoor Prison for  
plotting sabotage.. Although  
imprisoned since 1964, he is  
generally regarded as: the  
major leader among South  
Africaâ\200\231s 24 million blacks.

Mrs. Mandela, who in re-  
cent months has emerged as  
the most vocal public critic  
of apartheid, has spent most  
of the last eight years ban-  
ished to a remote rural town,  
Brandfort. But she left in  
August after an arson attack  
she blamed on government  
agents.

Law and Order Minister  
Louis le Grange announced  
Saturday that Mandela now  
could live anywhere but in  
Johannesburg and its envi-  
rons, but still may not go to  
political rallies or be quoted  
in\_South Africa.

Authorities have prevented a family Christmas for the Mandelas. Mrs. Mandela might be able to talk to her husband for 30 minutes or so. And, depending on the guards, he might be able to touch his children. The couple have two children, Zinzi and Zenani, and three grandchildren.

Associated Press

Anti-apartheid activist Winnie Mandela leaves court in Johannesburg, South Africa, yesterday after she was released on her own recognizance. Hours later, police surrounded her home and threatened to rearrest her.

An injured black woman is taken to a hospital in Durban, South Africa, after a bomb exploded in the Sanlam Center, killing six whites,

blood. It was just too horrible, said Larry Oosthuizen, who owns a store across the street from the site of the midmorning blast. -

. There were bodies lying mutilated on the ground: There "was" thick, black,

smelly smoke all over the place.

Women were running around, holding their children, screaming. There were 30 children covered in

No 34 30on 30Immediately

claimed responsibility for the explosion. But Law and Order Minister Louis le Grange, who interrupted his vacation to visit the scene, called it the kind of cowardly act we have come to expect from the African National Congress, the main guerrilla force fighting the apartheid system under which the nation's 5 million whites dominate 24 million voteless blacks.

Le Grange said the international community has a moral responsibility to ostracize the ANC for the horrendous deed of the most horrendous nature.

The outlawed group has taken responsibility for many recent bombings in South Africa. Yesterday, it refused comment when messages were sent to its regional offices in Lusaka, Zambia.

On Saturday, a limpet

in S. Africa blast

mine, an explosive device that attaches to metal, went off beneath a van parked in central Durban and wounded eight people. The ANC

lanted land mines that

illed six whites on Dec. 15.

The most deadly ANC strike was in May, 1983, when a car bomb killed 19 people on a crowded Pretoria street and wounded more than 200.

After 16 months of anti-apartheid unrest in which only a few of the 1,000 people killed were whites, 13 whites were killed in nine days through yesterday.

In Soweto yesterday, police shot to death two blacks after anti-government demonstrators refused to disperse.

Five people also were wounded when police opened fire with shotguns and tear gas, authorities said.

[HE STATE PRESIDENT, Mr P W Botha,  
has firmly put the kibosh on rumours that the

Government intends to hold talks with the  
banned African National Congress. &

â\200\234It is not Government policy to negotiate with  
organisations engaged in promoting violence |

with South Africa,â\200\235 he said, responding to an

unsubstantiated report in a Johannesburg  
newspaper that four National Party members  
were to travel to Lusaka early in January to  
negotiate with the ANC. ot

No National Party member would be allowed  
to do so, said Mr Botha. â\200\234It is not Govern-  
ment policy to negotiate with organisations  
engaged in promoting violence.

â\200\234We are always willing to talk to groups of  
people in South Africa who follow the road  
of constitutional development, but not to  
those who are fostering violence.â\200\235  
We agree with his firm attitude.

For one thing, the ANC, with its terror at-  
tacks, has a lot to answer for. oo

Secondly, there is nothing to suggest that the  
ANC is prepared to abandon violence.

Besides its â\200\234militaryâ\200\235 objectives, it has taken  
its battle into the townships directly â\200\230and  
through front organisations. S

It has no wish to end the fight except on its  
own terms, and that means Black Marxist  
rule. - T

So what purpose would be served by the Gov-  
ernment having talks with the ANC? '

Those who favour such talks are obviously im-  
bued with the false notion that there can be  
no solution to the countryâ\200\231s problems with-  
out the ANC. :

' But to ask Mr Botha to talk to the ANC would  
be like asking Mrs Margaret Thatcher to re-  
solve Northern Irelandâ\200\231s problems by talking  
to the Irish Republican Army. o Rl  
Or asking Israel to discuss Middle East peace b

with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

No-one gives his enemy that kind of legitima-

AN would also str\_Ã@hgï~\202sfi?f  
he Right-wingers, who would  
overnment was soft on ter-

W

Since the swing to the Right, particularly  
among Afrikaners, is very marked, it would

\_be foolish for the Government to give the impression of appeasement.

A great deal has been made of the survey by

the Human Sciences Research Council which

- showed that 42,9 percent of the 1 000 people interviewed favoured negotiations with the ANC, while 43,9 percent were against and 13,3 percent were uncertain. - i  
The survey was held in September, before the ~ two-day stayaway and before the continuing unrest resulted in the army being called in to assist the police in the townships. &

jA ?a. last three months there has been a hard- ;  
- ening of White attitudes. This was confirmed by the support the Conservative Party receiv-

ed in the Primrose by-election. 1  
We, therefore, do not accept the survey's findings as reflecting the true mood of the coun-

In any case, we do not place much store on opinion polls. ehush :  
Ve need only refer to the HSRC's more detailed survey carried out in Randburg to

~ show how misleading polls can be.

Most people were said to favour opening facilities in Randburg to all races, yet the Progressive Federal Party, which had arranged

the poll and had hoped to introduce the counter

mplated changes, lost power there mainly @use of opposition to mixed amenities.

To put it bluntly, this is no time to talk to the 'ANC (whether there will be any time when this is desirable is a very moot point indeed).

We have to change, for our own reasons, at our own pace, in directions only we can determine. : '  
he ANC cannot help to determine that course, because it does not support reform of any kind. It wants victory through the barrel of a gun, or by destabilising the townships so that they are ungovernable. i

It is an organisation that favours revolutionary and not evolutionary change.

While it persists with this policy, the Government would be bonkers to talk to it.