

AP1976-1-10-27

Wounds Mdluli didn't have were in photos

THE NATAL MERCURY

27 OCT 1976

Court Reporter

PHOTOGRAPHS of dead ANC detainee Mr. Joseph Mdluli published overseas showed injuries not present when the body was examined by State pathologists, the Durban Criminal Sessions heard yesterday.

The photographs were handed in at the trial of four Security Branch policemen, who are appearing before the Judge President of Natal, Mr. Justice James, and two assessors.

Captain David Frederick van Zyl, Lieutenant Andrew Russell Cavill Taylor, Sergeant Mandlakayise Patrick Makhanya and Constable Zabulon Ngobese have pleaded not guilty to the culpable homicide of Mr. Mdluli.

Government pathologist Dr. Barend van Straaten told the Court that at 11 p.m. on March 19 he was called to the Fisher Street headquarters of the Special Branch.

In room 13 he found the body of Mr. Mdluli lying on the floor under a blanket.

The doctor was told that the detainee had died about 9.45 p.m. in front of witnesses.

When he examined the body just after midnight, rigor mortis had set in completely.

"My immediate reaction was — here is a man who could have been dead for anything up to 12 hours," Dr. van Straaten told the Court.

"I did not take the body temperature as there was the cream of police society telling me that the man had collapsed and died in their presence."

He said it was possible that Mr. Mdluli had died at the given time and rigor mortis had set in.

Strangulation

The doctor said that an officer demonstrated to him how Mr. Mdluli had stood up, collapsed and died. No mention was made to him of the dead man falling on to the back of a chair.

When he conducted the post mortem the following morning, his immediate reaction was that there was a contusion on Mr. Mdluli's neck consistent with manual strangulation.

Death was associated with the application of force to the neck, he found.

The main injury to the area of the Adam's apple would have caused death immediately. A second bruise under the jaw would not normally have caused death on its own, although it could have done so.

If it had not been for the neck injuries, there was no reason why Mr. Mdluli should have died.

There was no indication on the skin surface of finger marks, but this did not rule out that fingers could have been used.

Injuries were too spread out to be accounted for by a single fall on to the top of the chair, and were caused by more than one application of force, he said.

There were also abrasions to the cheeks, elbow, thigh, calf, shins, and behind the left shoulder. There was extensive deep bruising of the forehead, back of head, pelvis area and rib cage.

Neck cartilage was fractured — were three ribs on man's left side

in bruises are not all and with the blunt

Sole Sotho gets chop

27 OCT 1976

Mercury Correspondent

UMTATA — The sole Sotho-speaking member of the Transkei Cabinet was dropped yesterday when Transkei's Prime Minister, Paramount Chief Kaiser Matanzima, announced his first post-independence Cabinet.

He is Chief Jeremiah Moshesh, who has been a member of the Cabinet since 1963, and who comes from the Sotho-speaking Maluti area — the centre of the Basotho secessionist movement in the Transkei.

Although there have been repeated reports that Chief Moshesh has sympathised secretly with Basotho secessionists, he has strongly denied them.

Exile

One of the seven newcomers to the Cabinet is Mr. Tsepo Letlaka, a former exiled Pan-Africanist Congress leader who was persuaded to return to Transkei by the Transkei Prime Minister in 1975.

The full Cabinet is: Paramount Chief K. D. Matanzima, Prime Minister, Defence and Public Service Commission; Chief G. Matanzima, Justice, Police and Prisons; Mr. D. Koyana, Foreign Affairs and Information; Mr. S. Ndzumo, Agriculture and Forestry; Mr. W. S. Mbanga, Education; Miss S. N. Sigcau, Interior; Mr. T. Letlaka, Finance and Auditor-General; Mr. G. Ndadan-kulu, Local Government and Land Tenure; Mr. H. D. Monyen, Health and Welfare; Mr. A. N. Jona, Post and Telecommunications and Transport; Mr. R. Mdikizela, Planning and Commerce; Mr. T. Vika, Works and Energy.

There are two Deputy Ministers: Mr. H. Pamla, Health and Social Welfare and Mr. E. Z. Boodi, Agriculture and Forestry.

ENEMY FORCES IN TRANSKEI FEARED

THE NATAL MERCURY

27 OCT 1976

Mercury Correspondent

PRETORIA—Leading Opposition politicians warned yesterday that Transkei Prime Minister Matanzima, in his anxiety to win recognition from the Organisation of African Unity and the United Nations, might be tempted into reckless moves which could constitute security threats to South Africa.

The United Party's information chief, Dr. Gideon Jacobs MP, said it was greatly disturbing that at the very start of the territory's independence Transkei had offered to tolerate the presence of organisations known to be hostile to South Africa.

"If Prime Minister Matanzima moves further in this direction then the warnings of Opposition politicians over the years of South Africa being surrounded by hostile territories handed their freedom by the Nat Government would be fully justified."

Dr. Jacobs said the South African Government should seek firm assurances that Transkei would never harbour or assist organisations whose aims were subversive and in favour of revolution inside South Africa.

A PRP spokesman, Mr. Dave Dalling, said Mr. Vorster had said Transkei would be as free as Britain or the United States after independence.

Abused

"We can only hope this freedom will not be abused by the new country passively or actively to support forces and movements hostile to South Africa."

But it was ominous that the Transkei Prime Minister intended allowing the ANC and PAC to set up bases in his newly-independent country.

This had extremely serious implications for South Africa, and it was hoped that Transkei's economic dependence on South Africa would be a restraining influence.

"Prime Minister Matanzima can be expected to lean over backwards to gain the goodwill and recognition of other nations and the Organisation of African Unity."

What would cause great concern was just how the Chief Minister "goes about leaning over backwards."

Destroyed

Prime Minister Matanzima should be warned that while offering shelter to militant anti-South Africa organisations might curry favour with other African States, he could be "starting something which could ultimately destroy him," Mr. Dalling said.

On the other hand, if the Nat Government persisted in restricting, banning and imprisoning Black politicians and Black political organisations, then it must expect those politicians to set up bases in neighbouring territories.

"Chief Matanzima's declaration is surely a consequence of Nationalist repression," Mr. Dalling said.

Div's unity plan is at first base

THE NATAL MERCURY

27 OCT 1976

Mercury Reporter

THE long-awaited steering committee to spearhead Sir de Villiers Graaff's drive for a new opposition has been formed. It is to be led by Mr. Justice J. F. Marais, a former Transvaal Judge, it was announced in Durban yesterday.

The other members of the eight-man committee are: Dr. Frans Cronje, head of Nedbank and S.A. Breweries; Mr. Frank Robb, chairman of Southern Life; Mr. Frank Bradlow, Cape Town director of Bradlow Stores; Prof. Sybrand Strauss, Professor of

Law at Unisa; Prof. Danie Kriek, of Unisa's Political Science department; Dr. Jan Steyn, a patents lawyer in Pretoria; and one other person who has not yet consented to be available.

Dr. Cronje, Prof. Kriek and Dr. Steyn will represent the United Party, while Mr. Robb and Mr. Bradlow will represent the Progressive Reform Party, and Prof. Strauss will represent the Democratic Party.

The names of the committee members were announced in a joint statement issued in Durban yesterday by Sir de Villiers Graaff, Mr. Ray Swart, national chairman of the PRP, and Mr. Theo Gerdener, leader of the Democratic Party.

Judge Marais, chairman of the committee, said last night that the first meeting would take place next Thursday at a venue "in or about Johannesburg."

He said he had asked the three party leaders to be available in the event of their having to be consulted by the committee.

The committee initially would be deciding on an agenda and priorities, he said.

Judge Marais said he did not know the identity of the unnamed committee member, but as far as he was aware the person would be a PRP nominee.

There was speculation last night that this could be the chairman of the Anglo American Corporation, Mr. Harry Oppenheimer, who is overseas.

Judge Marais said he believed the committee had a good chance of uniting the three opposition parties.

He anticipated many problems but did not regard any as insurmountable.

Editor sets 'the record straight'

27 OCT 1976

GENEVA — Senior Newsweek editor Mr. Armand de Borchgrave, who has been banned from South Africa, said in Geneva yesterday that his recent revelations had evidently proved "highly embarrassing" both to the Bureau for State Security and to the South African Government.

In a signed statement, issued after he had learned details of Mr. Vorster's claims against him, he said: "South African Prime Minister John Vorster says that after he gave me an interview last May 5 he made a number of major corrections in his own hand on a transcript that was submitted to him for approval and that these were omitted when the article was published. This is incorrect."

In the interview he asked the Prime Minister: "Would it be accurate to say that the U.S. solicited South Africa's help to turn the tide against the Russians and Cubans in Angola last fall?"

The Prime Minister then said: "I must think about how I answer this one very carefully . . . I do not want to comment on that. The U.S. Government can speak for itself. I am sure you will appreciate that I cannot violate the confidentiality of Government to Government communications. But if you are making the statement, I won't call you a liar."

Blessings

He then asked Mr. Vorster whether it would be accurate to say that he had received a green light from Kissinger for a military operation and that at least six moderate Black African Presidents had given him their blessings.

Mr. Vorster had replied: "If you say that of your own accord, I will not call you a liar."

Mr. de Borchgrave said he again read this back to Mr. Vorster, and the Prime Minister said: "That is my answer for publication."

"The next day a Press Department aide told me the Prime Minister wanted that passage taken out," said Mr. de Borchgrave.

"I took my case to Dr. Eschel Rhoodie, the Director of Information. He informed me that the Foreign Minister had seen the transcript and had urged the Prime Minister to delete the passage in question."

"Dr. Rhoodie said he was in favour of leaving it in. 'The Foreign Minister belongs to the old striped-pants school,' Dr. Rhoodie told me, 'and he's scared of offending Dr. Kissinger. But don't worry about it.'"

Because of this conversation, said Mr. de Borchgrave, he left the exchanges in the published version of his story. — (Sapa.)

Founder axed from

THE DAILY NEWS

Transkei's

27 OCT 1976

new cabinet

Daily News Reporter

UMTATA, Wednesday. PRIME MINISTER Kaiser Matanzima dropped a bombshell here yesterday when he axed from his cabinet Chief Jeremiah Moshesh, one of the Transkei's longest-serving ministers.

This was the only real surprise when Chief Matanzima announced his new cabinet yesterday although the retention of Mr A. N. Jonas in the cabinet caused some raised eyebrows.

Chief Moshesh, a popular Sotho leader from the Maluti region, was one of the three — with the two Matanzima brothers — original members of the first Transkei cabinet ap-

pointed after limited self government was granted in 1963.

It is understood that he was ousted because he was thought to be involved with Qwa Qwa Chief Minister, Mr T. Mopeli, in the Sotho campaign to secede from Transkei.

The only other member of the old cabinet to lose his position was Mr Z. M. Mabandla, but he was elected Speaker of the National Assembly instead.

Two of the new members of the cabinet, the Rev G. T. Vika, and Mr H. Pamla, had earlier been expelled from the ruling Transkei National Independence Party — the Rev Vika twice.

All 12 ministers of the new cabinet have Bachelor

degrees.

Prime Minister Matanzima has kept the portfolios of Defence and the Public Service Commission for himself. His brother Chief George Matanzima is, as before, Minister of Justice, Police and Prisons.

Miss Stella Sigcau keeps the Ministry of the Interior, Chief George Ndabankulu has been shifted to Local and Land Tenure and Mr A. N. Jonas to Posts and Telecommunications and Transport.

The new faces include Mr Digby Koyana, an advocate of the Supreme Court and diplomat trainee, who was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs and Information.

The Finance and General Auditor's job went to Mr Tsepo Letlaka, an attorney and former PAC exile, who returned to Transkei as a trainee diplomat.

The former chairman of the Legislative Assembly Mr Ndzumo, was given Agriculture and Forestry, and the party's Chief Whip Mr H. D. Ilonyeni was appointed Minister of Health and Welfare.

Mr Ramsy Madikizela, who crossed the floor from the opposition benches earlier this year, was given Planning and Commerce.

Weekly
paper
will
back
the Govt

Daily News Reporter

UMTATA, Wednesday. A NEW English weekly newspaper has appeared in Transkei — and it is being published by an Afrikaans Press group.

Called Imvo-Transkei, it is published by Perskor and it will be "pro the Transkei Government and pro development in all its facets," according to its manager, Mr J. Booysen.

But it would criticise the Government if this was necessary. "It is an independent newspaper — not simply a gazette."

Although the newspaper was being published by Perskor, he said it was possible that Transkei citizens could acquire a financial stake in it in the future.

Mr Booysen said an editor for the newspaper had not yet been appointed.

The newspaper's editorial department would be based in Umtata.

At this stage it would circulate almost exclusively in Transkei.

It should not be confused with the Xhosa newspaper, Imvo, which has been produced by Perskor for many years. This newspaper would no longer be distributed in Transkei, but in various parts of South Africa, he said.

He added that it was hoped that Imvo-Transkei would have a circulation of about 15 000.

He denied that the newspaper was in any way connected with Nasionale Pers or newspaper publisher Mr Louis Luyt.

There has been speculation that Mr Luyt and Nasionale Pers head Mr David de Villiers are interested in establishing a newspaper in Transkei.