

Witness Reporters
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The accusation has been vehemently
airman of the ANC branch
ls0 Nkabine, who said the
assaulted were all mem-

in Richmond, Fi

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C spokesman Barn,
: e victims suffered
Spears and sjamboks
endale Hospital,
â\200\234The PAC once
dissent and p

ey Desai said some
wounds caused by
and were admitted to

more calls for tolerance of
eace among Africans â\200\224
stop now,â\200\235 Desai said.

C was aware the in-

cident took place but said it was against

ANC members who were â\200\234guilty of rape,
housebreaking and arsonâ\200\235, -

â\200\234It appears that the comrades took the
situation into their own hands without going
thg'gugh the ANC structures,â\200\235 Nkabinde
said.

He added a meeting would be held today
in an attempt to defuse the situation.

Meanwhile, six men were injured when
fighting broke out between Inkatha and
ANC supporters on a KwaZulu Transport
bus in Eastwood while the bus was en route
to Table Mountain,

_ Police spokesman Lieutenant Henry
Budhram said the six people were stabbed
with â\200\234sharp instrumentsâ\200\235 on Thursday
afternoon and they were admitted to N orth-

dale and Edendale hospitals. He said no arrests were made, â\200\230

Chief Mhlabunzima Maphumulo claimed

yesterday the men were
Table Mountain followj

i ity i ich they were charged
with illegal possession of weapons. He said
armed Inkatha supporters boarded the bus ' and began stabbing the men.. ...

â\200\234We have lost control of our culture, our tradition and ourselves,â\200\235 Maphumulo said.

He said the attack made no sense, but claimed that Inkatha supporters cannot resist â\200\234soft targetsâ\200\235.

KwaZulu Legislative Assembly member David Ntombela said if the attackers were indeed Inkatha supporters, â\200\234then I condemn themâ\200\235,

Reacting to the incident, KZT spokesman Mark Loudon said any form of disruption to Publictransport should be taken seriously.

Also in Table Mountain, a weman died when she was shot with an AK47.

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The Saturday News, January 19, 1991

sat\â\200\234â\200\230ds PE CT

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FLEEING from the violence: two children run for cover as a Zulu impi takes to the streets i
n Thokoza on the East Rand, during vicious clashes between the ANC and Inkatha.

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ANC and KwaZulu
From Mr Ben M. Skosana

Sir, I must strongly take issue with some of Arthur Miller's insinuations about Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi and the Zulu people (Saturday Review, January 12). The chieftainship of Dr Mandela is nowhere cited by him or the ANC as an impediment to meeting Dr Buthelezi as Mr Miller suggests. What is an affront is the threat by certain ANC members to throttle Dr Mandela if he ever goes ahead with such a meeting.

Anyone familiar with the ANC political campaign against KwaZulu knows that the Zulus did not initiate the attack on the Xhosas, as Mr Miller clearly implies, but that the opposite is true. By accusing Dr Buthelezi of justifying apartheid by accepting the leadership of a concocted homeland where his people were dumped Mr Miller displays the adulterated liberalism peculiar to the willing victims of ANC propaganda.

Had Mr Miller cared to investigate properly the genesis of the leadership of Dr Buthelezi in KwaZulu, he would have been aware of a monumental contradiction: namely, that Dr Mandela and most of the ANC leadership are regular VIP guests of the so-called independent Xhosa homeland of the Transkei a perfect creation by Pretoria for Xhosa-speaking South Africans such as Dr Mandela, Mr Tambo and most of the ANC leaders.

Yours faithfully,

BEN SKOSANA (Inkatha permanent representative in the UK), .

PO Box 1638, London NW8.
January 14.

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There is also a strong feeling that foreign investment will only be attracted back to South Africa once the violence has ended. ;

Thus the meeting on January 29 is likely to be not only the first in a series which could set a peace process firmly in place in Natal and beyond, but also a meeting which has great significance in determining any future government.

It will give a practical demonstration to supporters at grassroots level, as well as organisational officials, of political tolerance, and it is also the coming together of South Africa's two most prominent black leaders, who at the moment compete as rivals.

The head of the Department of Politics at the University of Natal,

Professor Mervyn Frost, believes the agreement by Dr Buthelezi and Mr Mandela to meet signifies a perception by both political organisations that progress cannot be made in ne-

gotiating a new constitution without the co-operation of other parties.

What we've witnessed over the last 18 months is a belief by some members of both those parties that they could go it alone, Professor Frost said, referring to the constant political wrangling by the two organisations who both at times displayed a complete intolerance of and disregard for each other.

I think this meeting is an extremely significant milestone in the negotiation process, the importance of which cannot be overestimated.

An expected and greatly hoped

To PERACE

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for easing of the conflict in the wake of the talks will also have an impact on national negotiations, - which have been hindered by the

continuing violence and by lack of unity among anti-apartheid group-

ngs.

Previously, supporters of the two organisations have responded well to peace talks between their leaders. Examples of this are apparent both in smaller localised peace pacts, such as in Shongweni Valley and the Lower Umfolosi area, as well as more national pacts such as took place in mid-1989.

However, the price of failure is high. When talks in June 1989 led to a peace plan being worked out by high-

profile officials from Inkatha and the .

Cosatu/UDF alliance, death figures in Natal dropped dramatically to nine deaths in June and 25 in July.

But when the talks collapsed in August, death figures rose to 95 that month.

The January 29 meeting is likely to be an emotional occasion for the two leaders. Close friends in the

| 1940s, both have repeatedly through

the years spoken of their respect and affection for each other, and of their unhappiness that they were unable to meet earlier.

Mr Mandela has emphasised his gratitude for Dr Buthelezi's efforts to ensure his release from prison, while Dr Buthelezi refers to Mr Mandela as 'the martyr of our struggle'.

At the same time, acrimonious exchanges through the media have left bitterness and a certain amount of rivalry, which they will have to come to terms with.

Another problem which has been raised by political commentators is that the public at large is nurturing dangerously high expectations of 'miraculous peace'; that people are expecting dramatic results from what could just be the first of many meetings between the two leaders and their organisations.

These expectations, if not fulfilled,

'could lead to the situation where people at grassroots level lose all

hope and begin to vent their frustrations through the only option they know ' violence.

However, there is no doubt that at the moment the South African community is waiting with bated breath for the meeting that many feel could go a long way towards ending the appalling circle of violence in the country. :

Whatever the final outcome of the talks, the first move towards political tolerance and multi-party nego-

| "tiations will have been made.

SRR

Now it must
i "

bury the panga

tives, too numerous to mention,
that have been calling for and
quietly facilitating this meeting.
Praise is further due to the two
leaders and their advisers for de-
ciding to act as statesmen rather
than politicians in this regard.
Knowing the deep respect the
two leaders have for each other,
and the respect they both have for
human life, I have always refused
to accept that it was impossible
for them to launch a joint effort to

of their people, caused by vio-
lence.

Accusations

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" The challenges they will face at
the meeting will be enormous.
Only mutual goodwill and sinceri-
ty will enable them to meet these

In the first place, they will have
to endeavour to dwell more on the
future than on the past. They will
have to decide how to stop the
killings and the hatred, and not
how they failed to do so in the
past. The former approach can
only lead to progress in normalis-
ing their political relationship; the
latter can only lead to accusa-

stalemate.

Secondly, the two leaders will
have to accept that only a joint
strategy will help them to address
the violence. Joint peace rallies,
joint and complimentary press
statements about the violence,
joint tours to violence-infested
areas all these would give a
tremendous boost to their efforts

to save us from the violence.

Thirdly, one of the most disappointing aspects of the relationship between the ANC and Inkatha has been the absence of a mechanism whereby the two or-

NE of the most welcome New Year gifts Through for the victims of the violence between Inkatha and y Eye â\200\230] the ANC is the announcement that the leaders of the OSCAR two organisations will meet 4 DHLOMO on January 29. This is exciting news also for people, organisations and media representatives could remain in con alleviate the unbearable suffering .

are attacks (provoked or unprovoked), counter-accusations and

tact, even in times of peace. This has resulted in the organisations communicating with each other through the media. ; Hopefully the meeting will also pay attention to this anomaly. Fourthly, I hope the two leaders and their delegations will find a way of saying to their followers, â\200\234Do not retaliate if you are attackedâ\200\235, and that they will also stop qualifying their statements on violence with the words, â\200\234My people are entitled to defend themselvesâ\200\235. I say this because this violence has become a deadly triangle, the three sides of which

voked), self-defence and retaliation. .

Usually, self-defence and retaliation become more ferocious and devastating than the original at-

tack and â\200\230the violence cycle goes:| -

on and on: I know this is quite a difficult

cult, one for leaders to swallow

lead people? ;

In this regard, I was highly impressed by Archbishop Tutu's recent call to the victims of the recent virgil massacre in Sebokeng , not to go out and retaliate. -]

Ample space

Finally, I pray that the meeting ' will lead to the realisation by the two leaders that South Africaâ\200\231 needs both of them to grace our | political stage and strengthen each other. The future of the ANC does not depend on the elimina- | tion of Inkatha and vice-versa. There is ample space for peaceful political co-existence in our-coun- try. It behoves all our political | leaders, through words and deeds, | to be seen to be creating and en- larging, rather than diminishing, | that space.

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Ruling Buys S. African
Press Freedom

8A THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER Saturday, January 19, 1991

By TINA SUSMAN
Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South
Africa — A judge ruled in a defa-
mation suit Friday that two news-
papers were probably justified in
linking a police officer to alleged
death squads.

The ruling in favor of the news-
papers raised anew the question of
the white-led government's tactics
against its opponents. The opinion
clashed with findings of a govern-
ment commission that concluded
there was no proof of organized
death squads. :

The judge's ruling also struck a
major blow for press freedom in
this country, where the media have
often been repressed.

The police officer, Lt. Gen.
Johan Neethling, sued the Vrye
Weekblad and Weekly Mail news-

papers after they printed the alle-
gations in 1989 that he supplied
poison to kill activists opposed to
the official system of racial separa-
tion, known as apartheid. A for-
mer police officer who claimed to
have taken part in death squad
activities made the accusation.

In his ruling, which took two
days to read, Judge Johan Kriegler
described Neethling's accuser,
Dirk Coetzee, as a "self-confessed
hoodlum" but said his stories
were believable,

Why would he declare himself
guilty of such heinous crimes if it
has not been the truth? Kriegler
said.

Neethling denied wrongdoing,
claimed he never met Coetzee and
sought \$600,000 from the newspa-
pers. He stood up angrily after the
ruling Friday and said he would

appeal.

As head of the South African
Police forensics - department,
Neethling had access to poison,
Kriegler noted. He said evidence
indicated Neethling lied to the

court and the government-appointed Harms Commission when he denied knowing Coetzee.

The commission concluded in November that police probably committed violence against anti-apartheid figures, but there was no evidence of organized death squads in this nation of 30 million blacks and 5 million whites.

The judge said the public's right to know the truth supersedes potential damage to Neethling's

reputation. He ordered Neethling to pay the newspapers' court costs. Max du Preez, editor of Vrye Weekblad, estimated costs at \$400,000.

Allegations of death squads were first raised by a former police officer, Almond Nofomela, in October 1989, the day before he was to be executed for a murder with no political overtones. Coetzee subsequently said he also took part in murders sanctioned by superiors during the 1980s, and he implicated Neethling.

quorpela_ was spared and remains in prison. Coetzee fled the country and is in Britain.