

By SIPHO KHumary

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Umkhonto is
â\200\230soldiering onâ\200\235

ELSON Mandela says

the African National

Congress will never dis-

band its armed wing,

Umkhonto we Sizwe, and that the

government accepts this posi-
tion.

He says the ANC made this point

clear before the signing of the National

Peace Accord in September last year,

and it is still the position today.

â\200\234About three days before the accord, Presi-
dent F W De Klerk called me at home and said:
â\200\230I am going to raise the question of Umkhonto
we Sizwe at the conferencej that Umkhonto

ANC president Mr Nelson
Mandela spoke this week to JON
QWELANE of Weekend Argus on

three key issues:

Â® The government bill to ban
private armies. Â® The ongoing
violence. @ The defection of five

parliamentary members of the

Democratic Party to the ANC,
which has thrown white politics

into disarray.

must be disbanded.â\200\231 }

â\200\234I said to him: â\200\230You are making a serious mis-
take. Don't do it. We want to ? there in a spirit
of peace, especially you and I. The success of

that peace conference is going'to depend on the ,

two of us. If we are going there to quarrel we
can never succeed.

â\200\230Leave the matter over, well continue to dis-
cuss it another day after the peace agree-
ment.â\200\235 â\200\231 :

Mr Mandela says Mr De Klerk has raised the question of disbanding Umkhonto several times.

But the ANC position is: â\200\234You're making a mistake in thinking the SA Defence Force is a national army, because it is not. It is as much a private army as Umkhonto weSizwe. We recognise you as illegitimate .and, even more, discredited. And we donâ\200\231t recognise any of your institutions or your agencies. We donâ\200\231t recognise the SADF as a national army.â\200\231

He says Umkhonto will undergo a transformation only when a democratic government is in place in South Africa:

â\200\234Then we will be able to hand over Umkhonto to that government to be merged with the SADF and other military formations, all of which are going to be democratised to form a new national army. That is our position and the government accepts it.â\200\235

Mr Mandela says the ANC and the government are moving closer because the latter â\200\234has realised the force of our argument. We have made them know that Umkhonto will never dissolve. Umkhonto will never be disbanded.â\200\235

Mr Mandela also says the process of constitutional negotiations was started by the ANC.

â\200\234I was able to see Mr P W Botha in July 1989 and we discussed the question of us promoting

peace in this country. Then I met Mr De Klerk three times before I left prison, discussing this question.â\200\235

Subsequent events culminated in the historic Codesa 1 gathering on December 20 to 21 last year. .

#â\200\230Codesa has now made immense progress, because we were able to sign a declaration of intentions. It was signed by most of the 19 parties

resent â\200\224 except Bopzuthatwana and Inkatha. The Pan Africanist Congress had withdrawn from Codesa on the last day.

â\200\234Although there are still difficulties, the scenario is one of hope because we have made progress and have even isolated the government

from its allies, the homelands. We are now working very closely with most of the homelands, except perhaps Inkatha.â\200\235)

Mr Mandela says there is a parallel between the violence in the black community and what happened to the Jews in Nazi Germany.

â\200\234People in Germany were murdered not because they were a threat to the security of the state, but because they were Jews. Here people are being killed simply because they are blacks.

â\200\234And it is nob really black-cn-black violence.
If it was that we could have solved it long ago.
It is because the state security services are in-
volved. There are certain facts which suggest
the government is involved, De Klerk himself.

â\200\234Since September 1984, 13 000 people have
been killed, mainly with assegais, sticks, knob-
kieries and battle-axes. And all along there has
been a law making the carrying in public of
these weapons a criminal offence.

â\200\234Shortly after Mr De Klerk unbanned the

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ANC, he authorised the carrying of these dangerous weapons, knowing they were being used or killing people. He was giving the capacity to

certain people, to certain organisations, to carry

weapons -of death and to murder innocent people. I told him so, it's no secret.

To the whites of South Africa, says Mr Mandela, the violence in the black community is as remote as if it were happening in Chicago, or on the moon they do not care.

He is adamant there is a third force behind the violence.

The CCB, 32 Battalion, the hit squads and the police who are shooting our people. Go to any location and ask the people who is killing them.

They'll tell you it's Inkatha and the police.

Meanwhile, five parliamentary members of the Democratic Party this week joined the ANC, throwing the state of white politics into a mini disarray. '

Mr Mandela says he has no problems with the DP: I saw Dr Zach de Beer on Monday and discussed the situation with him. Our relations remain warm; they're not affected by this because the DP knows we have not enticed (the MPs) to come to us. It was their decision.

I must say as far as I am concerned {I advised the five to remain (in the DP) and to strengthen the co-operation between the two organisations, but they had taken a decision. They were firm about it, that they had decided to join us. Of course I couldn't stop them.

But I discussed the matter with Dr De Beer and our discussion was very warm because I respect him very much. I expect relations between us and the DP to continue warmly.

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| By MIKE ROBERTSON |
' and EDYTH BULBRING i

| SOUTH AFRICAâ\200\231s political |
| leaders wil) meet tomorrow |
| for a final push to avert chaos |
| by nailing down an agree- |
| ment that will set the country |
| on the road to majority rule |
| within six weeks. {

President FW de Klerk said this i

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people .. (o turp this commmtry mto a |
Fchoing the urgent need for a break. |
Cyril Ramaphosa, said the nEXt 3ix weeks |

â\200\230U we do not deliver in that time the
whole negotiations process will become

The countryâ\200\231s two foremost political

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| Nelson Mandela - have their credibility,

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authority and, ultimately, their political

| lives' riding on 3 successful putcore of |

talks which resume at the World Trade '
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ADELAIDE
TAMBO |

Â® Death of a stalwart:
ANC national chairmar
Oliver Tambo died at

3 am yesterday at the
Milpark Clinic after
suffering a severe

OLIVER Reginald Tambo's po-
litical style was low key, but
very effective. He could move
swiitly, decisively and ruthlessly
when necessary

The swovess the ANC bad in
mainiaising its vnity and pur-
pose in the 30 years in exile is
atiribuiable i no small part to
the personal gualibes of a man
known al the ANC as â\200\234Comrade
JRâ\200\235 and as ihe "African Mosesâ\200\235
Â¢ the international world

A man of consensus rather
thas extrerity, Tambo {75 was

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abie effect in the West

In the '50s and '60s he in-
fluenced 3 whole gemeraiion of
young men whe were to be poli-
tically influential in the subse-
quent decade

Tambo Jeft hiz birihplace
Bizana in the Transkei - o at-
tend St Peterâ\200\231s Schoo! st Rose
tenville in Johannesburg, and
later Forl Hare University. In
1341 he obtained 2 BSc dogree
al Port Hare and an education
diploma in 19843 He studied iaw
in 1948 and esiablished a friend-
ship with Nelson Mandela. 7o-
gether with Anton Lembede,
Mandela, Waiter Sisulu. AP
Mds and Robert Sobukwe, he
belped form the ANC Youth
League in 1943 In 1549 he was

riected vice-president of s
f ind (8 the executive
comouites of the ANC
He propeÃ©lied the ANC oul ol
its tethatgy and eventually
helped transforsy il inle the
Riass movement it became in
the 1950s. He also played 3

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